




THE BEST COURSES
The top twenty universities
Playing the ratings game and the best departments
PAGES 22,23



Here comes summer
What is hot and what is not on the beach
PAGE 16



MEDIA
Ideal housekeeping
PAGE 24,25



Britain blows it
Wasted chances in the Euro space race
Supplement



Nigella Lawson
Is Robert Winston trying to play God?
PAGE 17

Equipment tainted with explosive Lab tests cast doubt on IRA convictions

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

AT LEAST 12 people may have been wrongly convicted of terrorist offences on the strength of tests at a government laboratory where equipment was contaminated with explosives, the Home Office disclosed yesterday.

Michael Howard has ordered an investigation into a series of bombing convictions, which could include some of the most high-profile IRA trials of the past seven years.

Among the cases expected to be reviewed are those of Robert Fryers and Hugh Jack, who were found guilty of conspiring to cause explosions and Sean McNulty, who was jailed for 25 years for bombing oil and gas installations.

The Home Secretary called for the review after traces of the explosive RDX, a substance found in *Semtex*, were discovered in a key piece of machinery two months ago when a scientist split a sample during a routine check at the Forensic Explosives Laboratory near Sevenoaks in Kent.

Experts said last night that the chance of contamination of samples was minute, but they admitted that the potential for a miscarriage of justice could not be discounted.

The disclosure is a big embarrassment for the Government, especially as doubts over scientific evidence have been a key element in a series of miscarriages of justice including the cases of the Birmingham Six, the Maguire Seven and Judith Ward.

Mr Howard said yesterday that the prospects of a miscarriage of justice were extremely small, but he was determined not to take the risk. "We are going to have an independent investigation to make sure that if there is any case in which a suspect sample of this kind formed part of the evidence it is looked at again."

The Home Secretary was criticised, however, for making his announcement in a written parliamentary answer rather than in a Commons statement. Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said he would demand an emergency statement today. He said: "It is preposterous that Mr Howard chose to slip this out by way of a written answer rather than making a full statement to MPs. His handling of this has been inept given the seriousness of the issue."

The Home Office was unable to provide exact details of the number of convictions that might be affected. Thirty-eight people have been jailed since 1989 under the Explosives Substances Act, although some cases would have involved explosives other than *Semtex* and would have been supported by other evidence. In his written answer, Mr Howard admitted that a number of terrorist cases being referred back to the Court of Appeal.

"The explosives contamination involved a small amount — not more than 30 microgrammes — of the explosive RDX, one of the main components of the explosive *Semtex*," he said.

"It was detected in a part of a laboratory centrifuge which was probably contaminated on its arrival at the Forensic Explosives Laboratory in 1989. By normal standards the explosive detected was tiny, but nevertheless should not have been there. There is a small theoretical possibility that any casework sample showing RDX traces may have been affected by the centrifuge contamination."

Brian Caddy, professor of forensic science at Strathclyde University, is to carry out the inquiry, which will look at the chances of samples being contaminated, the paperwork of all cases in which RDX traces were found, and the extent to which forensic evidence helped to secure a conviction.

The laboratory, which is the only one of its kind, has carried out tests on some 500 separate samples taken from suspects, their property and the scene of explosions since 1989.

A number of tests proved negative and others led to no convictions, but findings of traces of RDX are believed to have formed part of the prosecution case in a series of prosecutions.

Pat Doherty, the vice-president of Sinn Féin, said: "It seems incredible that the same method of forensic testing can be used for seven years without it being scrutinised. Michael Howard's admission that these cases go back over seven years also raises the question of how long did the British Government know that evidence in these cases was false."

IRA cases, page 2



President Chirac blows kisses to the crowd as he rides with the Queen in an open landau to Buckingham Palace on the first day of his state visit

M Chirac takes a train to a beef lunch

By ALAN HAMILTON

THE Field of the Cloth of Gold it was not. But, given the haughty indifference of capital cities to foreign nabobs, President Chirac of France attracted a very respectable crowd when he arrived in London yesterday for a three-day state visit.

Several thousand people lined the Mall, sumptuously decked out in giant Union flags and Tricolours, as the President and the Queen rode from Horse Guards to Buckingham Palace to a private lunch of Scottish beef.

M Chirac had chosen to travel by scheduled Eurostar train, thus becoming the first head of state to make a formal visit to Britain by rail, and it arrived at Waterloo at 12.12, one minute early, to the relief of all concerned.

M and Mme Chirac were greeted at platform 24 by Princess Margaret, who welcomed them with a breezy "bonjour". After meeting the necessary railway officials, the royal party travelled in two cars to Horse Guards and the full-scale official welcome.

Horse Guards is more or less permanently set out with thousands of seats for tourists to watch the Trooping the Colour ceremony. Yesterday only a few hundred of the seats were filled, making it look like a second-division football stadium when the first team is playing away.

President Chirac greeted the Queen with a long, slow handshake and some intimate conversation. His wife, a footstep behind, did not curtsy, although a momentary twitch in her left knee suggested that she had at least thought about it.

The Queen wore a lavender blue wool coat with swing back and mandarin-style collar. Palace officials will never name the designer although yesterday's was undoubtedly by Ian Thomas. The French made no secret of the fact that Mme Chirac was wearing Karl Lagerfeld: a beige and ivory tweed jacket worn over a black crepe skirt with handbag and straw hat.

Accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, M Chirac inspected a guard of honour provided by the Irish Guards, with a large troop of the Household Cavalry drawn up behind for effect. The band of Irish Guards is a competent ensemble, but it takes a French band to infuse *La Marseillaise* with the élan, brio and verve that makes it such a great national anthem.

M and Mme Chirac were then presented to the usual dignitaries, from John Major to the Lord Mayor of London, before the short drive to Buckingham Palace and lunch.

Later, the French leader laid a wreath at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey, and another at the statue of Charles de Gaulle in Carlton House Terrace. He also spent half an hour each with Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown and he and Mme Chirac paid a 15-minute call on Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

Last night the Queen entertained the Chiracs to a state banquet in the ballroom at Buckingham Palace, where the main course was rack of lamb served with spring vegetables and asparagus.

The Queen appeared to rule out any British pull-out from Europe when she told M. Chirac: "We will continue to stand with you in the United Nations, the European Union and Nato, as a partner with world interests." M Chirac replied: "Franco-British friendship must be a cornerstone of the construction of Europe, on which the future of our children depends."

Dissidents held in horror cell

By MICHAEL DYNES

TRIBAL activists, opposed to the operations of Shell in Nigeria, are being held in horrific prison conditions.

Nineteen Ogoni detainees, awaiting trial for their alleged involvement in the murder of tribal leaders, have been held for two years in Port Harcourt prison. Documents smuggled out and seen by *The Times*, bear testimony to medieval conditions.

The revelation will embarrass the Anglo-Dutch company which is today holding its annual general meetings.

Nigeria 'frame-up', page 15

Labour clash over dole for 12 months

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A NEW row has developed in the Shadow Cabinet over whether a Labour government should again make unemployment benefit available for 12 months.

Chris Smith, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, is pressing for the new Job Seekers Allowance, which replaces unemployment benefit and reduces it to six months from this October, to be paid over a full year.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has argued that the move, estimated to cost £150 million, is too expensive and has asked for it to be removed from a policy document which Mr Smith had prepared.

The document, which is said to include a range of welfare to work proposals, has been put on hold and will not go to Labour's national policy forum this weekend for approval with six policy documents. It will instead merely go forward as a discussion paper.

Mr Smith is still fighting his corner to extend the benefits for unemployed people but sources say he is unlikely to win unless he can identify savings to pay for it.

"Papers are always being filled by the Treasury," one party source said. "It would be unusual if a document containing a spending commitment had not been filled."

Mr Brown has told Mr Smith to remove a section on child benefit from his paper on

We cannot prevent the vicious cycle of low skills, unemployment and poverty repeating itself from one generation to another unless we act now. If we do not, we face growing social division.
Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, page 18

the Child Support Agency which will go to the policy forum in Manchester. Mr Smith is believed to have argued against any form of means testing or taxing of child benefit.

Mr Smith was said to be furious that Mr Brown undermined that paper by briefing two weeks ago that Labour intended to scrap child benefit for 16 to 18 year olds, to save £700 million.

Mr Smith, who knew nothing of the scheme till the morning it was leaked, has agreed to look again at the payments as part of a review of post-16 education. Mr Smith and David Blunkett, the Shadow Education and Employment Secretary, are studying a number of options on child benefit.

Mr Smith is keen on channelling some of the savings to encourage poorer families to keep their children at school after 16. One option is to increase allowances for poorer families from the present £10.80 weekly rate for child benefit to about £20, while removing it altogether for richer families or taxing it for higher income groups.

Germans lay ground for Wembley final

By DAVID MADDOCK

THERE is a question raised at some stage by every football supporter whose memory of the 1966 World Cup final has dimmed. Why, they ask, does Germany win everything? The answer, it seems, lies in the preparation.

They had booked a luxurious Manchester hotel for the European Championship, beginning on June 8, even before the qualifying campaign. Now the Germans have had a pitch built at the cost of £10,000 to allow them to train within the grounds.

The training surface has been built to the exact proportions of the Wembley pitch and covered with the same turf, which will be cut to the same length. This is despite the fact that they are only likely

to play on the real Wembley turf if they reach the final.

"We have been preparing for these championships from even before the last competition was completed four years ago," a spokesman for the German Football Federation explained.

Risk is not a concept they will entertain in their diet either. They will eat no British beef. The team will munch their way through 90lb of meat a day during the championship, all of it imported from a Bavarian butcher.

An entire wing of the hotel has been booked for the 60-strong party for three weeks. A satellite has been installed to beam German programmes into the players' rooms, and no doubt towels have already been placed beside the leisure club's luxury pool.

The German FA had nipped in first to pip several other associations interested in using the hotel as a base. "They are spot on with their attention to detail. We have worked closely with them for several months to get everything right, and we believe we have covered everything," said Paul Clayton, the hotel's general manager.

England supporters have every reason to be worried. The German squad for the tournament was announced on Monday and they will arrive here in time for their first press conference on May 24. England, by contrast, have not even finalised their squad and next week set off on an apparently pointless trip to China and Hong Kong.

Charlton's roving role, page 50



John Major promised yesterday that the Government would fund improved security for schools. Page 6

BREITLING
1884



CHRONOMAT

Close cooperation with pilots and aviation experts enables Breitling to continue improving its chronograph designs all the time. The Chronomat features a self-winding mechanical movement, a rotating bezel and a screw-locked crown. This instrument is water-resistant down to 100 metres.

"My Breitling Chronomat was an essential and reliable aid to my achievement"

David Hempleman-Adams, the first Briton to walk solo and unsupported to the South Pole.

INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

AVAILABLE FROM SELECTED JEWELLERS THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND
FOR YOUR NEAREST STOCKIST TELEPHONE 0171 637 5167

Being The Times overseas
Australia £4.00; Belgium £3.50; Canada \$12.50; Denmark Dkr 18.00; France F 14.00; Germany DM 17.00; Greece Gr 10.00; Ireland £4.50; Italy L 4.50; Japan ¥20.00; Netherlands Dfl 35.00; Norway Nkr 20.00; Portugal Esc 350; Spain Ptas 325; Sweden Skr 19.50; Switzerland Sfr 4.00; Tunisia Dtn 2.200; USA \$3.50.

The Internet edition of The Times now has more than 200,000 registered readers
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>



TV & RADIO	50, 51
WEATHER	26
CROSSWORDS	26, 52

LETTERS	19
OBITUARIES	21
SIMON JENKINS	18

ARTS	36-38
CHESS & BRIDGE	47
COURT & SOCIAL	20

SPORT	46-50, 52
MEDIA	24, 25
LAW REPORT	45

MAY 15 1996
ictions
perts
saws
ism
THE LAB

Persian cat casts owner in the role of international criminal

By Bill Frost and Peter Foster

A PERSIAN cat was responsible for casting a wealthy young businesswoman from Latvia in the role of an international criminal, the High Court was told yesterday.

Suspensions were raised when Vita Kokorevica, 22, a company director, arrived at Gatwick last September with the cat, called Dana, the court heard. Tom Cro-

ford, representing Miss Kokorevica, said: "Her obvious wealth and East European background seemed to make officials think that like Blofeld, the cat-loving arch-villain in James Bond, she was linked to organised crime."

Mr Croford described Miss Kokorevica as "a rich, young eastern European travelling with a cat - nothing more" who intended to stay at Claridge's in London until the £1.2 million house she had

bought was redecorated. Immigration officials were worried about her ostentatious wealth after a luggage search showed that she had huge receipts for jewellery and a chauffeur-driven Bentley was waiting for her at the airport. They refused entry and contacted the organised crime squad.

"Making her into some Blofeld-type character was something the immigration authorities should not have done," Mr Croford said. He

said there was no evidence to support their suspicions and the decision to exclude her was unreasonable. Miss Kokorevica was a company director of Vigo Stores (UK) Ltd, which leased luxury cars, and her cat was her constant companion. She was just a frequent traveller "with a very high lifestyle" earning a salary up to £130,000.

Rejecting the submissions, Mr Justice Latham said the immigration authority's actions were just-

fied. "Business people don't usually come with cats. It is as simple as that," he said. Then there was the purchase of a substantial property and the chauffeur.

After interviewing her in Russian, admittedly not her native language, an immigration official decided that her declared sources of income "did not sit easily with her lifestyle" and she appeared reluctant to identify business colleagues. Miss Kokorevica was allowed to

stay in Britain only until the hearing. Dana has already been returned to Latvia.

Last night Miss Kokorevica ordered staff to pack a caravan of Gucci bags at her £1.2 million mock-Tudor thatched mansion, The Round House, at Loudwater, Hertfordshire. Nursing her three-month old son while contemplating her return to Latvia, she said her extraordinary affluence was commonplace in the former Soviet

Union and denied any links with Russian mafia money-laundering or any other form of skulduggery.

"It is normal for people as young as me to be wealthy these days, there is nothing sinister about it. I have done nothing wrong. It was all Dana's fault. If I had known that cats were not allowed in this country none of this would have happened. Once the officers found her in my hand luggage they were suspicious about everything."

Jilted lover reveals all with intimate letter to villagers

By A Staff Reporter

A MAN whose girlfriend left him and refused to let him see their baby sought revenge by sending an offensive letter to everybody in her home village revealing intimate secrets about her family.

Mike Phelan, 40, used the electoral roll to get the names and addresses of 600 villagers in Stoke Gabriel, Devon, where Kathy Holmes, 23, and Millie were living with her parents. Each was sent a copy of the insulting and sexually explicit eight-page letter.

Phelan, of Lytham St Anne's, Lancashire, was fined £1,700 by Totnes magistrates yesterday after admitting sending a malicious communication which was indecent or grossly offensive. Julian Tregellis, the magistrate, told him: "Your actions were certainly grossly offensive and indecent and they caused this lady and her family great distress and anxiety."

After the hearing, Miss Holmes said she would have liked to have seen Phelan imprisoned. "Not because I am vindictive, but I want him to see that what he did was

very wrong and caused everyone great distress."

Many villagers complained to police. One of them, Leslie Purcell, said that the letter, signed M Jones, contained grossly offensive words and a disgusting sexual content.

Chris Bennett, for the prosecution, said that the letter, "to set tongues wagging", contained gossip of Miss Holmes's private life, that of her parents and sister.

The couple met in 1991 when Phelan ran a publishing business in Paignton, Devon.

In October 1993 the couple moved to Edinburgh and the following year Miss Holmes became pregnant. But Phelan started to be increasingly possessive and the relationship ended.

Phelan made a series of telephone calls and became very angry, making wild and irrational threats and, while Miss Holmes at first was willing to allow him access to Millie, she then thought he might fail to return her.

He responded by sending her a copy of the letter he planned to distribute through-

out the village and a copy of the electoral roll to prove he had the addresses.

"In it there was a large amount of gossip about her personal life, her parents' personal life and her sister's personal life. It was very intimate and caused her great distress."

"Nothing happened for a while but then, on March 15 this year, he told her he had sent them. And then, on March 18, villagers received them," he said.

Mr Purcell complained to the police about the letter. "They contained swear words that he found grossly offensive and sexual contents which he found disgusting," said Mr Bennett. "They contained delicate personal details, medical conditions and sexual proclivities and activities of the persons concerned."

The letter, which was not read out in court, also gave the address and telephone numbers of the family members in it.

Owen Evans, in mitigation, said Phelan had acted out of frustration at not being able to see his daughter. "His knew a lot of things about this young lady and her family, some of it not very pleasant," he said.

"If his motivation was to embarrass Miss Holmes, then I can tell you that after press coverage of the case, then he is just as embarrassed as Miss Holmes is," he said.

A woman resident of Stoke Gabriel said last night: "Everybody was absolutely disgusted. I do not know the girl involved and, like everybody else, just tore the letter up and threw it in the bin. It was beneath contempt."



Phelan and Kathy Holmes, his former girlfriend



Mark Hallett, holding his painting of David Hockney's Malibu beach house, edges past a portrait of Hockney at the Salt's Mill Gallery

Hockney gives students California dream

By Joe Joseph

WHEN the Government urged schools to pep up the standard of their teaching they probably were not expecting that four A-level art students from Bradford Grammar would go so far as to wangle a personal tutorial from David Hockney.

The reason they struck so lucky was that one of the world's greatest living painters also just happens to be a nostalgic Bradford Grammar old boy.

The results of their masterclass - conducted during a recent two-week visit to Hockney's Malibu beach

house - went on show yesterday at the Salt's Mill Gallery, near Bradford. The teenagers' work hangs next to Hockney originals.

"It is as if Picasso had asked pupils from his old school to come and join him in his chateau in France," John Silver, who owns the gallery and who is an old friend of Hockney, said yesterday. "The boys did pictures of the house, of David's famous dachshund, Stanley, and of Los Angeles landscapes. They also did some Hockney-style photographic 'joiners'."

A large photo-collage of the four boys with their art master, Robert

Walker, who accompanied them on their trip to Los Angeles, also hangs in the gallery. On a visit to the school Hockney had been impressed with the work of Robert Frith, Mark Hallett, Ben Walker and James Bowskill and invited them to stay with him in his expatriate home.

Robert, 17, said: "We just expected to use his house and thought he would actually be in Venice. But when we arrived we walked down the stairs of his beach house and there he was to welcome us. He showed us all round his studio and we learnt a lot about the way he works." Ben, also 17, said: "He

took us out in his 300SL soft-top Mercedes on a ride through the San Gabriel mountains known as the 'Wagner run'. The drive is fantastic, all around the windy mountain roads, to the accompaniment of Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*, which is blasted from speakers beneath the back seats. It was the most fantastic experience. I think it has inspired us all."

Mr Walker said: "It was two weeks in paradise, quite incredible. David is a very kind man and couldn't have done more for us. The lads haven't stopped talking about it and the work is just pouring out of them."

WPC 'made ill by sex taunts at work'

By Paul Wilkinson

A WOMAN police constable was driven to the verge of illness by the blatant sexual comments of colleagues, an industrial tribunal was told yesterday.

They made lewd gestures, hinted she was having an affair with a fellow officer and jokingly suggested to a glue-sniffer who had been arrested that he have sex with her in the back of a police van.

Karen Wade, 27, a WPC with the West Yorkshire force, is now on sick leave through stress, the hearing at Leeds was told. She is claiming sexual harassment by PC Dean Mountain, Sgt Paul Fountain and Sgt Ian Devey, three colleagues at the Holbeck station in Leeds.

Soon after the incident with the glue-sniffer she went on sick leave with chronic hyperventilation syndrome brought on by anxiety and stress. The WPC, who joined the West Yorkshire force in 1992, sobbed as she told the hearing: "I found their sexual com-

ments degrading and humiliating, especially when they called me a tart and a stripper. After a few months I began to feel as if I could do nothing right. I lost motivation and confidence. It got to the point when I didn't want to be at Holbeck."

"I tried to cope at work until I got so depressed and distressed I went on sick leave. I was unhappy and felt unaccepted. I felt totally isolated. No one had anything to do with me. I was made to feel like a total outsider."

"It got to the stage where I couldn't even open my mouth without someone poking fun at me." She said she had brought the complaint because she was on the edge of a nervous breakdown. "It is an unwritten rule in the police force not to say anything against your colleagues, otherwise you will be ostracised. I could not even trust my immediate supervisors with my complaints."

The hearing continues.

Australians ready to deport serial killer from Glasgow

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland Correspondent, and Roger Maynard

AUSTRALIA is likely to deport to Britain a murderer from Glasgow who has killed four people and once said he would kill seven people.

Yesterday Glasgow City Council confirmed that the authorities in New South Wales had been in touch over the deportation of Archie "Mad Dog" McCafferty, 47, who came before the Offenders Review Board in Sydney this week. McCafferty, originally from the city's Woodside area, has served 22 years in jail for multiple murder. It will be several weeks before the board makes a final decision but Glasgow council has been told it is highly likely that he will be released on parole.

There is a deportation order on him and, if he returns to Glasgow, the council would have an obligation to consider any request for housing.

In 1973 McCafferty, who had formed a commune, carried out random "thrill-kill" murders while under the influence of drugs. The killings

followed the accidental death of his baby son Craig. McCafferty claimed at his trial that the voice of his dead son had urged him to kill. He had an obsession with the number seven and believed that if he killed seven times his baby would be resurrected.

McCafferty, then aged 24, controlled a gang of teenagers; their first murder victim was a drunk whom McCafferty



McCafferty: jailed for multiple murder

stabbed seven times. Two nights later in the cemetery where his son was buried, McCafferty shot dead a miner with seven children. That night the gang murdered a driving instructor.

McCafferty vowed to kill again and one of the gang, believing he was next, contacted the police.

He was given 14 years for manslaughter for killing a fellow inmate in Parramatta jail, Sydney, in 1981.

This week he told the board he was rehabilitated, apologised for what he had done and said he did not wish to hurt anyone. His parole officer said McCafferty's "re-socialisation" had been exceptional.

A spokesman for Berrima jail near Sydney said yesterday: "McCafferty should know his fate in a couple of weeks. If the Offenders Review Board give him parole they may simply set a date. Because he faces a deportation order, he will be put on the first available flight home."

Breast scar claim is settled

By Bill Frost

A WOMAN who felt violated by scars left from cosmetic breast surgery ten years ago settled her damages claim for £27,500 yesterday.

Julie Allen had mastopexy - a skin-tightening procedure - to improve the appearance of her breasts after her weight had fluctuated from the anorexia and bulimia she had as a teenager.

She claimed in the High Court that Antony Wallace, the consultant plastic surgeon who carried out the operation at St Bartholomew's Hospital, central London, in September 1986, said the scars around her breasts would be thin white lines. Mrs Allen, 32, of Earls Colne, Essex, told Mr Justice Potts that she had no warning that she would be left with wide lumpy scars that would bleed for months.

The action was stayed by consent with the payment of the damages by City and Hackney Health Authority, which denied liability.

Bishop may leave his Faith behind

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

ONE of the Church of England's leading opponents of women priests yesterday offered to resign as head of the most prominent traditionalist group, Forward in Faith, on his appointment as bishop.

The Rev John Broadhurst, who will be consecrated the new Bishop of Fulham later this year, said some members of the traditionalists' umbrella group, which has led the opposition to women priests in the Church, would be unhappy at having a bishop as their head. Some members of Forward in Faith, which has been accused of creating a church within a church, regard themselves as effectively out of communion with the main body of the Church because of women priests.

If Fr Broadhurst remains their chairman, they would object when he is consecrated at St Paul's Cathedral and receives communion there from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, who has ordained women to

the priesthood. Fr Broadhurst, 53, a team rector in north London, said he did not intend to distance himself from Forward in Faith.

"The ordination of women created damaged relationships in the Church," he said. "There are some people who would have serious problems about having a bishop who has received communion from the Archbishop of Canterbury as their chairman."

Fr Broadhurst, as Bishop of Fulham, will take responsibility for parishes in the London, Rochester and Southwark dioceses which cannot accept the ordination of women priests.

"One consequence of the ordination of women has been the straining and sometimes breaking of internal relationships," he said. "It is my belief that both sides on this difficult and complex issue must give each other enough space to live with dignity and confidence. I have no intention of presiding over a ghetto."

The original daily

PAPERS

THE FIRST AND STILL THE BEST



THE PRINCIPLES WE'RE BUILDING THE FUTURE OF COMPUTING AROUND

WEREN'T ALL LEARNED AT UNIVERSITY.

Long before we learned the first thing about building

computers, some fundamentals equally crucial to

information technology took root in our little heads:

Like, co-operating. Sharing.

**PARTNERSHIPS,
ALLIANCES AND
THE REWARDS OF
CO-OPERATION.**

Working with others. Today, we're working with

Microsoft, Oracle, Andersen Consulting, Netscape,

SAP and many others, to set

standards, ensure operability across platforms,

and create open

solutions that can help your company compete and

succeed in the years ahead. In short, together we're

digitalTM *building something no one could*
WHATEVER IT TAKESSM *construct alone. It's called, a future.*

For more information, call 0800 393 200,

or visit our Web site at www.digital.com

©1996 Digital Equipment Corporation. Digital and the DIGITAL logo are trademarks and Whatever It Takes is a service mark of Digital Equipment Corporation.

Car workers
to strike
over French

NEARLY 100,000 car workers are threatening to go on strike in France...

Ferrets to the rescue at ancient castle

By MICHAEL BROWN
AN army of ferrets has been deployed to help archaeologists uncover the secrets of an ancient castle...

Ex-l... ant

DO YOU CALL LONG DISTANCE AND MOBILES? IN 3 MINUTES FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN SAVE MONEY. YOU CAN ADD MERCURY TO YOUR EXISTING PHONELINE.

FreeCall 0500
Mercury Communications Limited, 100 Victoria Road, London W14 7LJ
When marked stars are shown

مكنا من الأصل

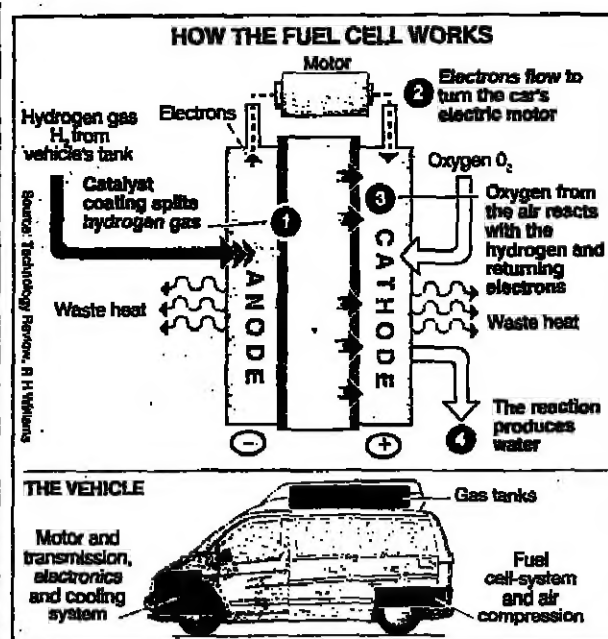
By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING EDITOR

Peugeot said yesterday that workers could take holiday or statutory days in September, or days off in lieu of bank holiday working if they needed the extra time off that month.

Ray Lissaman, Coventry official for the AEEU engineering union, said: "It's a liberty and designed to fit in with France rather than this area of the West Midlands. It means Peugeot workers will be off for a fourth week in August when all the other plants are working, and working in September when everyone else is off."

But Peugeot has been trying to move closer to the working patterns of its French parent for the past few years. August is the traditional month for holidays in France, with Peugeot's big factories closing for the month. When Ryton closed during July, the factory had to stock up with components during June so that it would have supplies when its French factories were closed.

Peugeot said: "Carrying that much stock was expensive and a waste of time and effort. Now we can work when our French counterparts work."



A Daimler Benz technician working on fuel cells. The method, devised in Britain, uses hydrogen and oxygen from the air to turn an electric motor

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

onstrated in 1839 by Sir William Grove at the Royal Institution in London. Until now the size and power generated from fuel cells have made them impractical for cars. Dr Acres said: "But they have now been able to pack a fuel cell with the same power density as the internal combustion engine... this is quite an achievement".

Daimler Benz predicts a mass-produced version by 2010. The date could be even earlier, as General Motors in America and Mazda in Japan are eager to exploit fuel cells commercially.

Johnson Matthey, whose founders assisted Sir William in his pioneering experiment, are providing the makers of the fuel cell, Ballard Power



the catalysts that make them work. Dr Acres, who is based at the company's research centre at Sonning Common, Oxfordshire, said it was a source of disappointment to engineers here that a British invention was being exploited

Since then several attempts have been made to harness the "gas battery" technology. In 1959 a tractor developed by Allis Chalmers used the devices and in 1963 fuel cells

were used on the first Gemini space mission. BP and Shell developed a prototype car.

The renewed incentive to exploit the technology is environmental, with the main impetus coming from America and some European countries such as Germany.

Electric cars powered by batteries are proving difficult to develop. The batteries require recharging for several hours. They are bulky, inconvenient and have limited ranges.

By contrast, fuel cells act like mini-power stations, generating electricity from the air and any hydrogen-rich fuel, including liquid hydrogen. Recharging is not needed and even petrol. Their range is limited only to the next filling-up point. If pure hydrogen is used, the emission is water vapour.

By MICHAEL HORNSBY

A council spokesman said: "We have been advised by the wildlife people that ferrets would be the most humane solution. Gassing and shooting would be difficult because the castle site is open to the public seven days a week. The best time will be next winter before the rabbits have bred and when there will be no young in the warrens."

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

"I think we can make more progress by bringing people of different views together and establishing commonsense middle ground," he said yesterday. "We have got to get away from the idea, still held by extremists on both sides,

John Bryant, the league's head of press and research, said: "This is absolute nonsense. Why should we compromise our position when for the first time we have overwhelming support in the Commons for an end to hunting and the prospect of a government committed to force the necessary legislation through?"

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

Thefts have spiralled since the import of common European tortoises was banned in 1985. Prices have risen with their scarcity and a thriving black market exists.

Professor Robert Winston, director of Hammersmith Hospital's in-vitro fertilisation clinic, asks us to make clear that his decision to treat an HIV-positive woman was supported by all his department's senior consultants (report, yesterday), and that the charitable funding used was given expressly for the particular patient concerned.



MORTGAGES

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DON'T KEEP UP YOUR PAYMENTS!

For your security and to assist us in improving our service to you, we may record or monitor all calls to Abbey National Direct. The above 5.99% Fixed Rate or 7% Discount rate comes combined with a 2% Cashback are available to customers meeting home-owners who do not currently have a mortgage with Abbey National Direct. Repayment Rate Range £200 - £2,000 per month. Other packages available depend on customer status, type of deposit and term over which the spread offer relates. Spreads will be 77.98%. All offers are subject to availability and may be withdrawn at any time. As a condition of this Fixed Rate, the mortgage must remain at the Standard Variable Rate for the period of 1.6% to 31.5/2001. If you switch from the Fixed Rate before the end of the fixed period or switch from the Standard Variable Rate that will apply after the fixed period, or make capital repayments (except normal monthly payments on a repayment mortgage) before 31.5.2001, a charge of 180 days gross interest at the fixed rate on the amount transferred or repaid will be payable. Discounted Variable Rates: Typical example for a 2% discount on our standard Variable Rate currently 7.29% ~~5.24% APR~~ until 31.5.98; a couple (male and female who currently do not have a mortgage with Abbey National, non-smokers, aged 29, applying for an endowment mortgage of £40,000 on a 10 year term would receive a purchase price of £160,000 over 25 years, 300 monthly interest payments of £156.49 less of tax relief, plus the final repayment of £40,000 capital, 300 monthly endowment premiums of £237.55 each month. Total cost of the mortgage is £11,249.05 inclusive. L17N inspection fee, 150 deeds handling fees charged on redemption, 11 £750 legal fees and accrued interest of £27.55 less of tax relief. This offer is available to couples who wish to take advantage of the cash back facility. A cash back facility will result in an increase in our monthly repayments. A charge equivalent to 5.24% APR applies. No charges has been taken on any change in interest rates. In the example from 1.6/98 our mortgage was reduced from £40,000 to £30,000. Capital repayment (except normal monthly payments on a repayment mortgage) is made before 31.5.2001. In addition to the discount received will be made by the lender. The discount will be applied to the Standard Variable Rate. The discount will be applied to the Cashback received will be made if you repay the mortgage in part or in full before 31.5.2001. The Cashback may affect personal liability to Capital Charge applications. The Standard Variable Rate will be applied to the Cashback received will be made if you repay the mortgage in part or in full before 31.5.2001. The Cashback may affect personal liability to Capital Charge applications. All loans are subject to valuation and are not available to persons under 18 years of age. A High Loan to Value Fee is required if the loan exceeds 75% of the property's valuation (in certain cases the purchase price, whichever is lower). We require the property to be insured. If not insured through us, we reserve the right to charge an administration fee of £25. Written quotations are available on request. Rates correct at time of going to press. *As a percentage of the purchase price or valuation whichever is lower. Abbey National plc, which is regulated by the Personal Information Authority, only sells its own life assurance, pension and unit trust products. Abbey National, the Umbrella Couple symbol and The habit of a lifetime are trademarks of Abbey National plc. Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 8XL, United Kingdom.

CJD victim's family sues ministers over 'mad cow' advice

BY CAROL MIDDLEY

A WOMAN whose mother died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human form of 'mad cow' disease, launched legal action yesterday against the Government.

Illa Andrews, 23, a chef from Banbury, Oxfordshire, is seeking legal aid to pursue her claim that the Government failed in its 'duty of care' to inform the public about the dangers of eating beef. Miss Andrews, whose mother, Fannie Van Es, died aged 44 two years ago, is the first relative of a victim of CJD to attempt such a legal challenge.

David Harris, her solicitor, said that they would have to show a link existed between BSE and CJD and also that Miss Andrews's mother was eating beef after the Government said it was safe to do so.

Miss Andrews announced her intention to sue at a meeting of relatives of CJD victims in Banbury yesterday. Seventeen families attended the meeting, designed as a support forum and a means of publicising what they described as the 'shambolic' handling of the beef problem.

If Miss Andrews is successful, her case could pave the way for dozens more relatives to take up similar claims. Mr Harris, of Alexander Harris of Sale, Greater Manchester, emphasised that each case would have to be proved

Britain's slender hopes for the easing of the global ban on beef exports depend on France. The European Union's veterinary committee will consider a proposal today to allow British exports of gelatine, tallow and bone meal. France could override the opposition of Germany and other states and President Chirac is being lobbied on his London visit. But earlier this week French ministers were reluctant to support a relaxation.

individually and that Miss Andrews's challenge could take two years to come to court. He said the most that could be won in compensation was £7,500 but it was worth pursuing for the 'wider emotional consequences'.

"It is all very well for the Government to contend that there is no proven link. There are suggestions indeed that have been put in the press and the media over a considerable period of time that there is a link," he said.

Miss Andrews said her Dutch-born mother had died within three months of showing the first symptoms of CJD. At first Ms Van Es, who was divorced from her husband, Terry Andrews, was depressed and suffered mood swings, becoming panic-stricken at the thought of

being left alone. When she developed a jerk in her right hand her children put it down to the antidepressants she was taking.

Weeks later she began to lose her memory and found it difficult to walk. Miss Andrews said: "By the end we were doing everything for her - washing her, dressing her, feeding her. She had terrible convulsions which would knock her out of bed."

Miss Andrews, who was accompanied by her brothers Tjark, 21, and Tjebbe, 14, said the family had no idea about the disease when it was first diagnosed.

"I remember looking it up in the medical dictionaries with the doctors," she said. "I must admit that when someone first suggested beef to me, I thought 'You must be joking'. But now I'm convinced."

She said her mother ate beef "but no more or less than anybody else. We have it twice, three, maybe four times a week, depending on what we wanted to eat that week."

"If someone can prove to me it wasn't beef then I will accept it. But no one can."

Miss Andrews added: "We just can't get over the fact that we lost our perfectly healthy mother at the age of 44. We should have had a lot more years with her and the Government should have been telling people about the dangers of eating beef years ago."



Geoffrey Cheney holds up the bullet he removed from Teneh Cole's head

Surgeons remove bullet from girl's head

BY JEREMY LAURENCE

SURGEONS removed a bullet from behind the eye of an African war orphan yesterday in a life-saving operation lasting two and a quarter hours.

Teneh Cole, 5, from Sierra Leone, was said to be making good progress last night after the operation at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. The charity Hope and Homes for Children had arranged for Teneh, whose name means "God will provide", to be flown to Britain last week. Both her parents were killed in her country's civil war and she survived a three-month journey through the bush to seek help.

At a news conference, Geoffrey Cheney, a consultant surgeon, held the bullet that he had extracted from behind Teneh's right eye where it had been lodged for 16 months. "She is very lucky to be alive," he said. The bullet could have led to a fatal infection at any time.

"We think [the bullet] either came in through the brain or ran around under the skin and into the orbit of the eye," Mr Cheney said. The bullet had destroyed the sight in the right eye. An infection could have ascended into the brain and caused meningitis, which would have proved fatal.

Mr Cheney said he had removed as much of the infected tissue as possible. The main risk in the short term would be of infection, and Teneh would be on antibiotics.

Malicious caller loses court plea

A man jailed for assaulting women by making hundreds of silent phone calls has lost his appeal against conviction at the Court of Appeal. Lord Justice Swinton Thomas said: "That the violence is inflicted indirectly, causing psychological harm, does not render the act to be any less an act of violence." Robert Ireland, 28, of Hereford, whose victims suffered physical symptoms, was jailed for three years at Newport Crown Court, Gwent, in March last year. He has since been released.

Kidnap arrests

Police have made several arrests in the hunt for masked men wielding baseball bats who kidnapped a man of 47 in a loyalist area of Belfast. He was found near Larnie at 4am yesterday with head injuries.

Meningitis death

A boy aged two from Birmingham died from meningococcal meningitis hours after admission to the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital. His family had been staying at a holiday camp in Dawlish Warren.

Shand-Kydd case

Frances Shand-Kydd, the Princess of Wales's mother, was accused at Oban Sheriff Court of driving while over the alcohol limit and not providing a breath test. There was no plea. The case was adjourned.

Operatic twist

Robert Corrie, 36, who badly twisted his ankle while playing the lead role in a local production of *Pirates of Penzance* at Long Eaton, Derbyshire, has won £4,750 from the insurers of the scenery makers.

GP cautioned

A GP has been cautioned by police for assaulting one of the partners at his health centre practice, allegedly in front of patients. Dr Graham Russell, 63, of Gloucester, has since left the practice.

Hooligan video

A video giving warning of violence at the European Football Championship will go on sale next week uncut. Production of *Hooligan 96* was suspended after criticisms that it glamorised hooliganism.

Passive smoking may not kill but it does a lot of harm

CAMPAIGNS against tobacco have tended to rely heavily on the increased liability of cigarette smokers to develop cancer of the lung. Although the statistics are frightening, these crusades have understated the effect of cigarettes on cardiovascular disease, non-malignant conditions of the lung such as emphysema and bronchitis, and cancers of the mouth, gullet, bladder and cervix.

The knowledge that smoking makes it four times more likely to have a fatal coronary thrombosis before the age of

65 is in many ways a greater deterrent than the increased risk of developing cancer of the lung.

Recent research by the European working group on environmental tobacco smoke and lung cancer, which has shown that passive smoking is a statistically insignificant factor in the cause of lung cancer in non-smokers, is no great surprise to most doctors. The traditional teaching is that about one in ten lung tumours occurs in non-smokers and those usually have a different cellular structure.



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Thirty years ago a non-smoking patient with lung cancer considered it a misfortune of nature and blamed nobody, but now it is rare to see such a patient who does not blame it, without any true evidence, on a smoking spouse, a neighbour at work or a lifetime as a barman or in some other job

that involves working in a smoky atmosphere.

The greater chance of developing a common disability is usually more telling than the fear of catastrophe in the future. As a former doctor in geriatric medicine, I have always felt that the simple statistic that smoking one cigarette cuts the penile blood

supply by a third is likely to do more to dissuade middle-aged smokers than all the statistics on cancer of the lung.

Aged 25, fit and youthful, a smoker can afford a third of a desirable, if not essential, blood supply without disadvantage; 15 years later he may well find this loss is crucial.

Likewise, smokers will not be discouraged by news that passive smokers have a relative risk of 1.01, where 1.0 means no increase in risk, but may think again when they realise that their addiction

can exacerbate many minor problems suffered by those with whom they work or live.

Passive smoking may trigger asthma, allergic rhinitis (a runny nose), bronchitis and angina in their colleagues. Even the toughest smoker would presumably refrain from smoking if he or she understood its detrimental effect on children, where it is closely related to the incidence of childhood asthma and cot death.

Working, or living, in a tobacco-laden atmosphere induces chest pain in patients

with coronary heart disease. When people with heart disease share a car with smokers they have angina on the way when they are breathing smoke-laden air, and on the way back, but while in the office they are free of chest pain.

Passive smoking may cause angina, coughing, a runny nose, it may even kill small babies, but it is unlikely to give rise to cancer.

DR THOMAS
STUTTAFORD

Renewing your home insurance in May or June?

If you're 50 or over, save with Saga Home Insurance

You will know how expensive home insurance can be - particularly if your insurance company is also having to insure younger, less careful householders. Thankfully, if you're aged 50 or over you can benefit from Saga Home Insurance - a superior household insurance that's only available to mature, responsible people like you.

Saga Home Insurance can offer you genuine savings over other policies, while giving you cover that fully protects your home and possessions. So if your home insurance is due for renewal soon, or if you would simply like to find out how much you could save with Saga Home Insurance, call us today - free.

The Saga Price Promise

If you find another comparable policy at a lower price within 2 months of taking out Saga Home Insurance, we'll refund you the difference.

SAGA
Services Ltd

Saga Services Ltd would like to send you information about services provided by other Saga companies and may pass details to these companies to enable them to do so.



- Exclusively for people aged 50 or over.
- Cover is comprehensive and low cost.
- Free Saga Assist service - 24 Hour Domestic Helpline, 24 Hour Legal Helpline, 24 Hour Glazing Service.
- Save 30% off WorldWide flights.
- Free pen with your quotation.

Call us today!

For your free no obligation quote and a free Saga pen, simply call us on the number below. We will be pleased to answer any questions you have on Saga Home Insurance.

0800 414 525 ext.3086

Lines open Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm,
Saturdays 9am - 1pm

Alternatively, send this coupon to us in an envelope - you do not need a stamp.
Saga Services Limited, FREEPOST731, Middleburg Square, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1BR

Mr / Mrs / Miss Initial: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone No: _____ Date of birth: ____/____/____

Occupation: _____

Policy Renewal Date: _____ No. of bedrooms: _____

Type of Property: _____

Detached House: ☐ Semi-detached House: ☐

Terraced House: ☐ Detached Bungalow: ☐

Semi-detached Bungalow: ☐ Flat/Maisonette: ☐

Other: ☐ Please specify: _____

Approximately when was it built?

Pre 1920 ☐ 1920-1945 ☐ 1946-1979 ☐ 1980-Present ☐

H 3086

Please tick the type of cover for which you would like a quotation:

Home Contents Cover ☐

Buildings Cover ☐

Answer YES to the following and you could save up to 15% on your Contents premium.

Does your home have an annually maintained burglar alarm? Yes ☐ No ☐

Is a 5-lever mortice lock fitted to the front exit door? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are all other external doors fitted with key-operated locks or bolts? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are secure key-operated locks fitted to all accessible windows? Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you an active member of a Police Approved Neighbourhood Watch Scheme? Yes ☐ No ☐

For insurance on listed buildings, those of non-standard construction, flats and maisonettes, or if you are the landlord of the property to be insured, please telephone 0800 414 525 ext 3086 for your quote or tick the box for further details ☐

The phone number is dead. Long live the Personal Number.

New technology has given birth to the Personal Number.

A younger, fitter, more adaptable number that dictates you no longer need a list of telephone numbers to keep in touch.

All you need is one Personal Number. Your very own 07000 number.

A Personal Number is not connected to any particular phone, it's connected to a person. Whether you're at home, in your office, the gym, a friend's house or travelling with a mobile, you simply direct all your calls to the nearest phone. Your caller will never know your location.

And in business, it means you never have to miss an important call.

Your number could be a highly memorable combination or even spell something on the phone's keypad.

Numbers are going fast, so don't delay if you want a special one. Don't risk your business deals coming to a dead end. Ring now.

THE PERSONAL
NUMBER COMPANY PLC

IN ASSOCIATION WITH VODAFONE GROUP

07000 70 70 70

Get personal if you want to get ahead



Mellor derides plans for 'village hall' millennium

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

DAVID MELLOR accused ministers of lack of leadership yesterday in planning the millennium celebrations.

The former National Heritage Secretary criticised the absence of high-profile projects "that will be remembered for the next 200 years" and said that the occasion would be marked by "a lot of millennium village halls".

He called on Virginia Bottomley, who became Heritage Secretary last year, and other ministers to take a stronger lead in planning a smaller number of memorable building projects.

"There is room for more direction. When you look at the millennium arrangements, what are we going to get? A lot of millennium village halls. I think there is room for more than that."

Mr Mellor echoed recent criticisms of the Millennium Commission's decision to give the go-ahead to more than 300 small projects, rather than channel funds into big schemes. He said: "I think the millennium is an important



The Crystal Palace exhibition of 1851

enough thing to celebrate. Ministers should have made some decisions about what they wanted to do.

"There is no shortage of goodwill, but Parliament itself should have taken the lead. When I see some of these millennium things being planned, I sometimes wonder what millennium people are aiming for."

The intervention of the first person to run the National Heritage Department added weight to the campaign for a single epoch-making project similar to the 1851 Crystal

Palace exhibition. Some £600 million has been set aside by the Millennium Commission for hundreds of grassroots schemes, with a smaller sum earmarked for landmark projects, including a £50 million Tate gallery of modern art, a £40 million marina in Portsmouth and a £45 million sports stadium at Hampden Park in Glasgow.

Mr Mellor, who resigned as National Heritage Secretary in 1993, questioned whether the department should take a more active role in other areas.

"Has the department taken enough authority? Should it have been as shy as it sometimes has been and not wanting to be interventionist?"

In evidence to the Commons National Heritage Select Committee, which is investigating the work of the four-year-old department, Mr Mellor pressed Mrs Bottomley and others to make sure it was "a ferment of ideas".

He spoke of the dangers of outside bodies taking too much responsibility for decision-making in sport and the arts and said that ministers needed to set down clear

ground rules. "Just because you are a great sportsman doesn't mean you are going to be a good administrator, or even that you are going to turn up at the meetings."

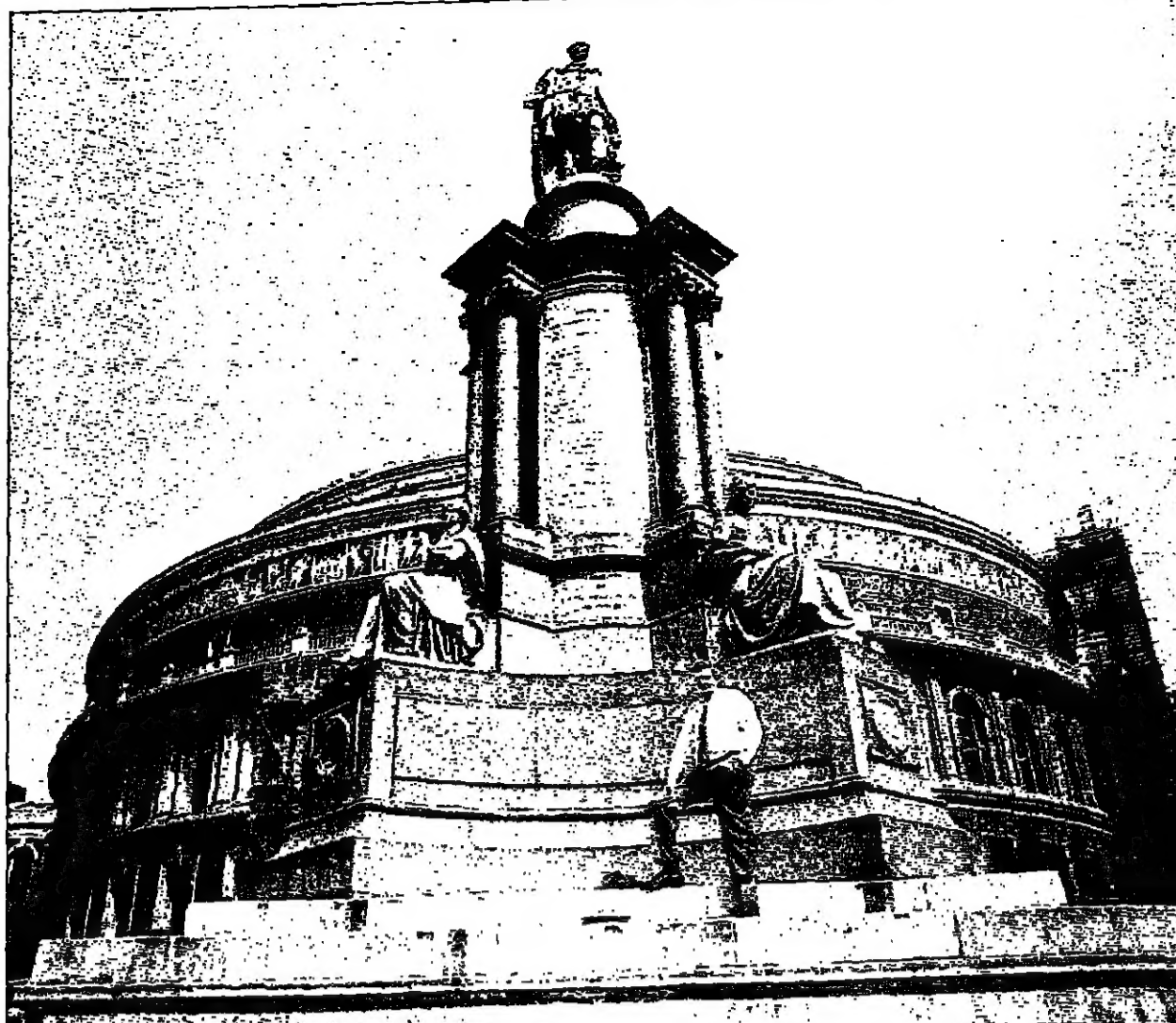
He added: "It isn't necessarily the case of the Arts Council being the only place to make decisions about the future of the arts in this country."

Mr Mellor also told MPs that the department would deserve to be closed down after "a ten-year experiment" if it acted only to appease the arts lobby and he pressed Mrs Bottomley to be firm in making spending decisions.

He also suggested closer departmental involvement in deciding on the distribution of funds from the National Lottery.

He questioned whether or not the money was being spent in a coherent way and whether there was a case for more leadership.

However, he praised the success of the lottery, which he said was "the engine for the most fundamental and exciting change for the whole range of cultural and leisure activities that has ever been devised".



Patrick Deuchar yesterday outside the Albert Hall, where he is chief executive. The hall has received £40m

Grant leak mars day of joy for the Albert Hall

BY PETER FOSTER

THE chief executive of the Albert Hall accused moles in the Heritage Department yesterday of leaking details to *The Times* of the hall's £40 million grant from National Lottery funds.

Patrick Deuchar, the driving force behind the hall's ambitious refurbishment plans, described the alleged leak as disgraceful, adding that it had stolen the excitement from the official announcement of the grant yesterday.

Speaking at a press conference, he said: "For whatever reasons, the department apparently decided there were points to be scored by leaking this story early... We have been working for six-and-a-half years on this project and instead of being excited by today we are very disheartened, although it is still a very exciting moment for us."

Details of the hall's lottery grant appeared in Monday's *Times*, but a spokesman for the Heritage Department categorically denied that it was the source. "There is no substance in the allegation that the Heritage Department leaked the news of the grant," he said.

The hall's lottery cash has been awarded jointly by the Arts Council and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The money will be topped up with £18 million from the hall's own trading surpluses and will be used to build a new restaurant, bars, box office facilities and an underground service yard beneath the south entrance.

The new basement, three floors deep, will house lorries delivering staging and technical equipment, while the surroundings of the hall are turned into traffic-free piazzas where concertgoers can spill onto

during intervals on summer evenings.

The south porch will also be rebuilt to match the other three porches and give greater access to the public up a newly widened staircase.

The construction of the basement will require the relocation of an electricity substation and the temporary removal of the statue of Prince Albert, which commemorates the Great Exhibition of 1851.

The number of shows at the hall is expected to increase from the present 300 per year to a projected 340 by the turn of the century.

The balance and popular emphasis of the hall's programming is to remain. For the millennium celebrations, the nation's village hall, as it is known, plans to stage the best productions selected from village halls across the country.

Mr Deuchar said: "The aim is to encourage halls round the country to do something artistic and to stage a week of the best productions. We hope to regenerate community artistic activity."

Other plans include the continuation of "arena" opera, with tickets at affordable prices, with the possibility of an annual production by the Royal Opera; improved access for the disabled; a National Orchestra Week; and enhanced acoustics. The work, to begin immediately, is expected to be completed by 2003.

Mr Deuchar added: "The money will allow us to actively promote the arts. In the past, finances have been so stretched that it has been impossible to do a truly creative job. This will make a much-loved and well-used building even more loved and better used."

STAY TRIM. GAIN QUARTER OF A POUND.

CRUNCHY BRAN

At Every Store Carried
throughout the
country.

25p OFF NEXT PURCHASE COUPON CRUNCHY BRAN

TO THE CUSTOMER: Hand this coupon to your retailer, who will allow you 25p off your next purchase of Weetabix Crunchy Bran 275g. It is invalid to redeem it against any other purchase. Only one coupon per purchase.

TO THE RETAILER: This coupon will be redeemed by Weetabix Ltd for 25p plus handling allowance, providing you have obtained it in part payment for one packet of Crunchy Bran and no other product. Weetabix Ltd reserves the right to refuse payment against any misused coupon.

PLEASE SEND COUPONS TO: Weetabix Ltd, Coupon Redemption, PO Box 12, Nottingham, Nottingham, NG15 5NQ, England.

PRINTED/WRITTEN OFFER: Weetabix Ltd, Station Road, Burton Latimer, Nottingham, NG15 5NQ, England.

Registered Number 267682. Display date 30/11/96 082296

Can help slimming or weight control only as part of a controlled diet.

9 900570 900254

The high fibre cereal from Weetabix.

Can help slimming or weight control only as part of a controlled diet.

Do you have about 40% too much money?

Then why spend 40% more on your international calls?

- Worldcall costs about 40% less than BT for international calls.
- Call anytime, to anywhere in the world
- Pay for what you say, with per second billing to most countries.
- Enjoy high quality digital connections from your home or business.
- Business accounts available
- It's simple - just dial Worldcall first.

All major credit cards accepted. Rate card and user guide available on request.

20% FREE
CALL OFFER
on first payment

Call now
0181 900 9990

Worldcall
pay free way home

For those with about 40% more to say

هكذا من الأصل

Whitehall lets bill run out of control at British Library

By Nigel Williamson, Whitehall Correspondent

SQUABBLES and indecision by civil servants over building the new British Library have trebled costs and caused a catalogue of technical disasters, a public spending watchdog says today.

The resulting delays mean that the building will open eight years behind schedule, at the end of next year. When the public is finally admitted, the library will not have enough seats to meet demand.

A report by the National Audit Office blames disputes between the Heritage Department and the library for many of the problems. The two bodies behaved "as opposing parties rather than partners" in the construction of the £500 million building at St Pancras, London.

In the summer of 1994, when a cash limit of £450 million had been breached, the department considered abandoning the building, described by the Prince of Wales as a

dim collection of sheds groping for some symbolic significance. The idea was rejected and another £40 million was made available. That was used up in February and costs are still rising.

The audit office is highly critical of the library's role but keeps its main barbs for the department. The report has been delayed for many months while Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, tried to persuade the audit office to water down some of its criticisms. Yet the conclusion remains devastating: the library never had direct management or contractual responsibility for the construction and the Government's desire to secure short-term savings not only led to delays but eventually added to long-term costs, now standing at £496 million.

The report says: "Having effectively two clients for a major construction project

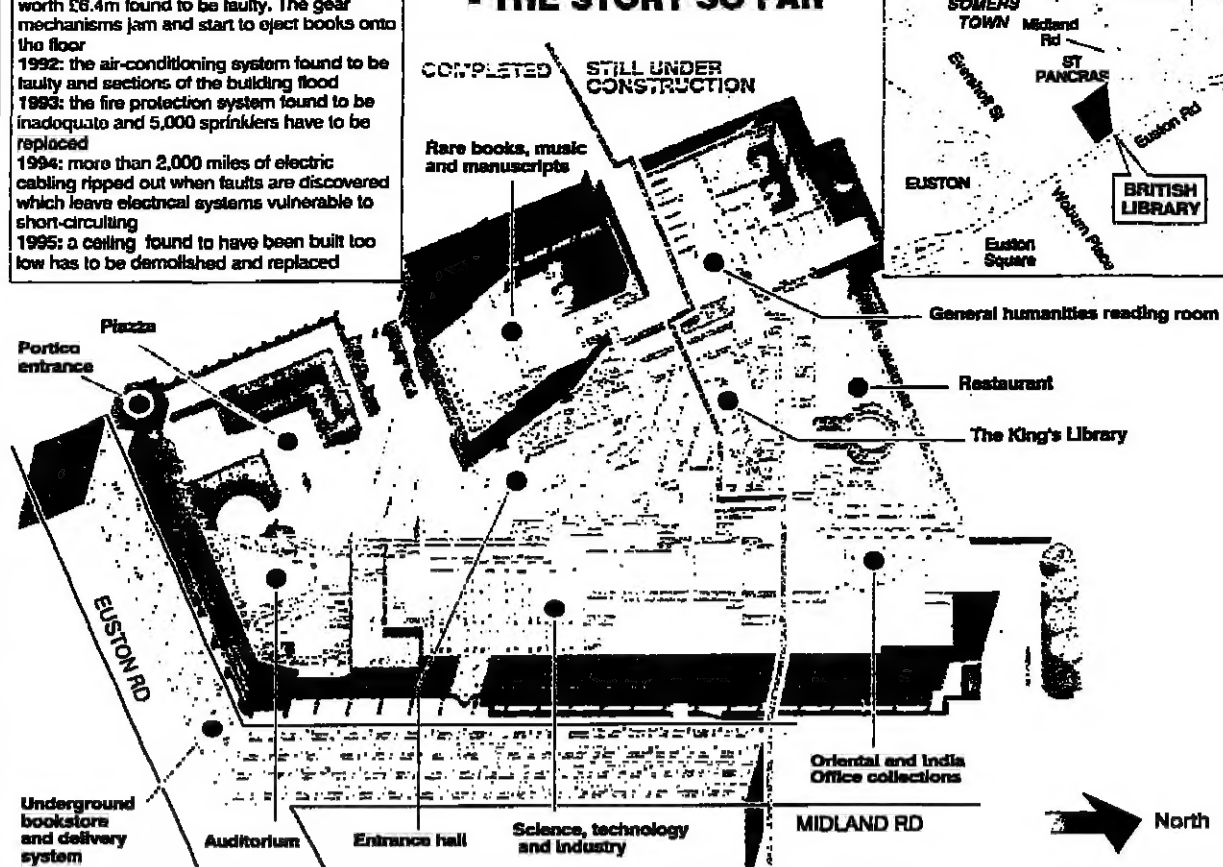
carries a high risk of disagreement and indecision over issues of cost versus quality." Conflicting objectives between the department and the library "aggravated time and cost overruns". In a rebuke to the Government, the audit office says: "Major capital projects should be sponsored exclusively by their users, who are best placed to balance time, cost and quality issues."

The library is due to take over the building from the department early next year. The first books will be moved in November this year but the service to readers will not begin until the end of 1997. The audit office queries whether the £200 reader seats will be sufficient. Demand for the science reading room, with 351 seats, is expected to be "exceeded at or shortly after opening".

The building, which will eventually house 18 million books when it replaces the old

A litany of technical problems
1991: electronic bookshelves in contract worth £6.4m found to be faulty. The gear mechanisms jam and start to eject books onto the floor.
1992: the air-conditioning system found to be faulty and sections of the building flood.
1993: the fire protection system found to be inadequate and 5,000 sprinklers have to be replaced.
1994: more than 2,000 miles of electric cabling ripped out when faults are discovered which leave electrical systems vulnerable to short-circuiting.
1995: a ceiling found to have been built too low has to be demolished and replaced.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY - THE STORY SO FAR



British Museum Library, has been beset by technical problems. The report says that inspections of building work were muddled and confused. Delays in the first phase

caused claims from contractors and meant £50 million was spent running the site and employing construction and design staff for an extra 32 months. The department said

yesterday that the audit office had recognised that the problems were rooted in management practices of the 1980s. Sir Anthony Kenny, chairman of the British Library

Board, said: "The Department of National Heritage and the British Library have worked together and have reached satisfactory conclusions."

Gallery to shine light on Roman treasures

By John Young

A NEW gallery for the display of some of the greatest treasures of Roman Britain will open at the British Museum next year.

Many of the objects have never been on public display. They include remarkable new archaeological discoveries, such as a superbly preserved building facade from Meonstoke in Hampshire and the spectacular early 5th-century hoard from Hoxne in Suffolk, containing jewellery, silver-plate and thousands of coins.

The gallery is being funded by a £1.75 million donation from the Garfield Weston foundation. Robert Anderson, the museum's director, said yesterday: "This significant gift from the foundation will at last enable us to do justice to our Romano-British collections."

The display will include writing tablets from Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall, which provided remarkable insight into life on the northern frontier of the empire.

Leading article, page 19



Anna of Brazil, a porn star, in Cannes yesterday

Porn brokers take a front-row seat at film festival

FROM DALYA ALBERGE IN CANNES

THE seamiest side of the Cannes Film Festival is flaunting itself unashamedly: pornography is a thriving industry.

"Take a walk down Porn Row", one specialist in "erotic films" said, pointing to an area of the conference building where there were many stands.

More than 100 porn exhibitors are in town, tempting buyers with thousands of films as openly as if they were children's cartoons. Just a few years ago, business was discreet. Today, it is in the building where the film festival premieres its main movies. Exhibitors cover their stands with glossy photographs of nudes in the most contorted positions, enticing passers-by to sample a video or two.

Some of the larger-than-life girls look as if silicone was on special offer when they put their bodies in the hands of a surgeon. Most make Pamela Anderson look like a character in a Jane Austen novel.

The festivals in Cannes and Milan are the main showcases for pornographic films, which are generally on sale in hard and soft-core versions. Some stands, however, have a third version that is extra-explicit, primarily aimed at the German market.

The porn market has become so strong that 5,000 American porn films were released in the United States alone last year. So many new companies are emerging that prices are being forced down. Chuck Zane, a Californian who has been in the business for 25 years, said: "Porn makers aren't making as much money as they were. I'm sure the world will feel upset for us." He makes 48 features a year. Since the arrival of video, he said, "any

Tom, Dick or Harry has got into the business. They don't have to shoot on film. It used to cost £130,000 to make a porn film but now it can be done for £16,000."

Donna Welles, director of North Star, a Los Angeles company, said: "Making porn has got much more difficult over the past five years because almost every scenario has been played out and mainstream films are so much more explicit that porn makers have to go further."

Tickets to tonight's Hot d'Or Awards, the porn industry's answer to the festival's prestigious Palme d'Or, cost £150. Categories include Best Lesbian Scene.

One of North Star's most recent releases, for which it is seeking a British distributor, is *The Dream Team*, featuring sex on jet skis. Ms Welles discussed the videos in such a matter-of-fact tone that she might have been selling the jet skis.

She turned on the film for a few minutes and said most buyers watched them on fast-forward. The story, she said, did not matter. Buyers just want to see the sex - unless it is destined for cable television, when they need "enough of a storyline".

Asked about the exploitation of women, Ms Welles said: "Most of these girls like to have sex." She emphasised that North Star has strict policies: "No bondage. No bestiality."

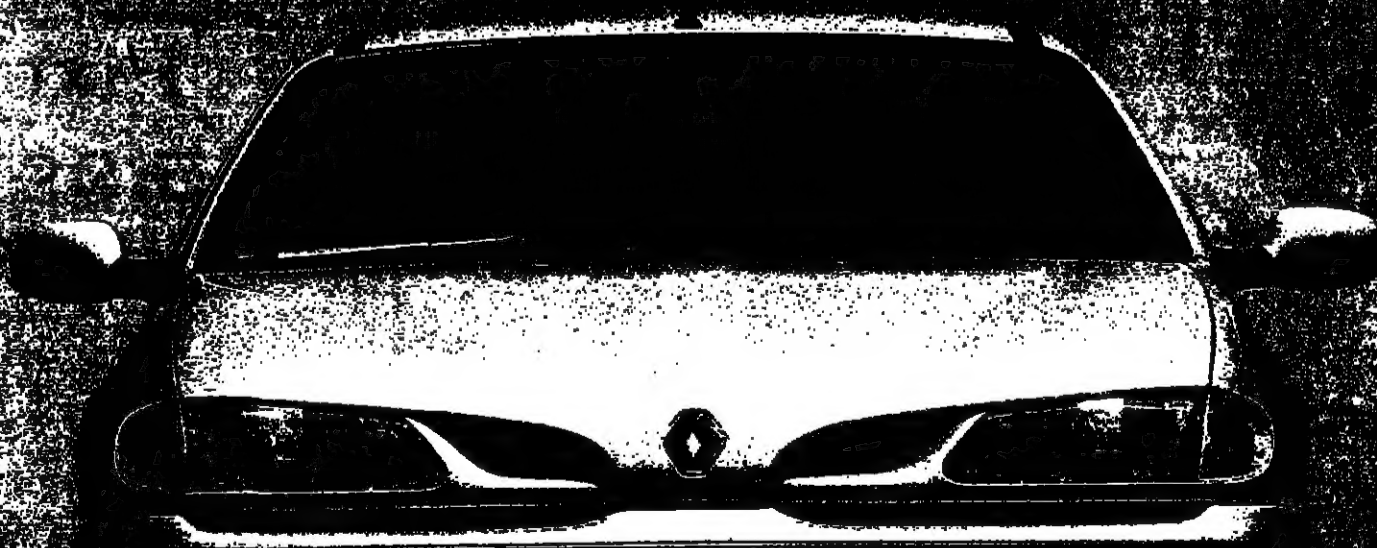
Many porn stars were in town yesterday. One of them, Laetitia, said: "I love being a porn star. It's the best thing in the world."

Actresses get as little as £60 for every sex scene, but once they make their names in porn, they can tour as dancers and command salaries of £10,000 a week.

I'M TALKING 0% FINANCE OVER 2 YEARS. INTERESTED?

From May 1st there's a new way to drive the car that talks your language. The Renault Mégane RT 1.6 and RXE 1.6 hatchbacks will be available for a limited period with 0% finance over a full two years. What do you say to that?

TYPICAL EXAMPLE		RENTAL RT 1.6
Cash price (inc. on the road costs)		£12,430*
Deposit		£5,220
24 Monthly Payments		£256.75
Total Credit Price		£12,430



Mégane

THE NEW RENAULT MÉGANE

IT talks YOUR LANGUAGE

All Renault Méganes have a 12-month unlimited mileage warranty with free RAC membership plus an 8-year anti-rust warranty and Renault Accident Management facility. Car shown 1.6 RXE £13,700* including optional Superglass Metallic paint. *Prices correct at time of going to press include 17.5% VAT and "key-in-hand" charge of £375 which covers delivery to the dealer, number plates, security window etching and 6 months Government road fund licence. Other goods or services supplied by the dealer are not included. Finance offer subject to status, applies to any new Renault Mégane RT 1.6 and RXE 1.6 hatchbacks ordered and registered by 31st May 1996. Certain conditions and restrictions apply. Ask your dealer for details. Credit facilities provided or arranged by RPS Ltd., City Road, Chester CH99 3RN. Written quotations available on request. This advertisement is placed on behalf of the vehicle importer Renault UK Ltd., Widenor Place, Unbridge UB9 6RT, and not individual franchise holders.



NEED INSTANT INSURANCE?

CALL SWINTON

0800 600 700

0500 450 451

BETWEEN 9AM-5PM MON-SAT, 9AM-4PM SUN OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL BRANCH

5

Mountain Spring
bath oil. £9.95.

Kennedy revival fills Democrats with fresh hope

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

A BIRTHDAY card from President Clinton is displayed prominently in the anteroom of Edward Kennedy's office on Capitol Hill. It reads simply: "Thanks for your friendship and for not losing heart this year when so many did."

Mr Clinton has much for which to thank the prominent scion of America's most famous political dynasty. As the President's poll ratings have soared, so too have his party's fortunes in the Senate. In no small part that is due to the extraordinary personal and political revival of Mr Kennedy, a man whose recent career has become a barometer for the Democrats' fortunes.

Two years ago the haggard, bloated and lacklustre senator was on the brink of losing the Massachusetts seat he had held for three decades. Tarnished by a reputation as playboy, rabble rouser and bon vivant, he was thought broken for ever by the ill fate that had plagued the Kennedy family since the deaths of his two elder brothers.

His popularity had plummeted after William Kennedy Smith, his nephew, was charged with rape after a night of carousing in Palm Beach with Uncle Ted. Mr Smith was acquitted, but the entanglement merely seemed to confirm doubts about the senator's character while

the spectre of Chappaquiddick continued to haunt his electoral ambitions. In the summer of 1994 he had made a public apology for the episode in which Mary Jo Kopechne died after he had driven his Oldsmobile off the Dyke Bridge on the night of July 18, 1969. But even after his re-election later that year, when the Republicans gained control of both houses for the first time in 40 years, Mr Kennedy remained a sad figure, rarely courted other than for his name.

Fast forward to this year and the picture is altogether different. Mr Kennedy rarely drinks alcohol. He leaps out of bed at 6am to conquer the exercise treadmill and arrives at Capitol Hill hours before most of his staff. The suits that had strained to accommodate his bulk last year now look positively loose and the excess flesh has fallen from a face that once more reveals the famous Kennedy jawline.

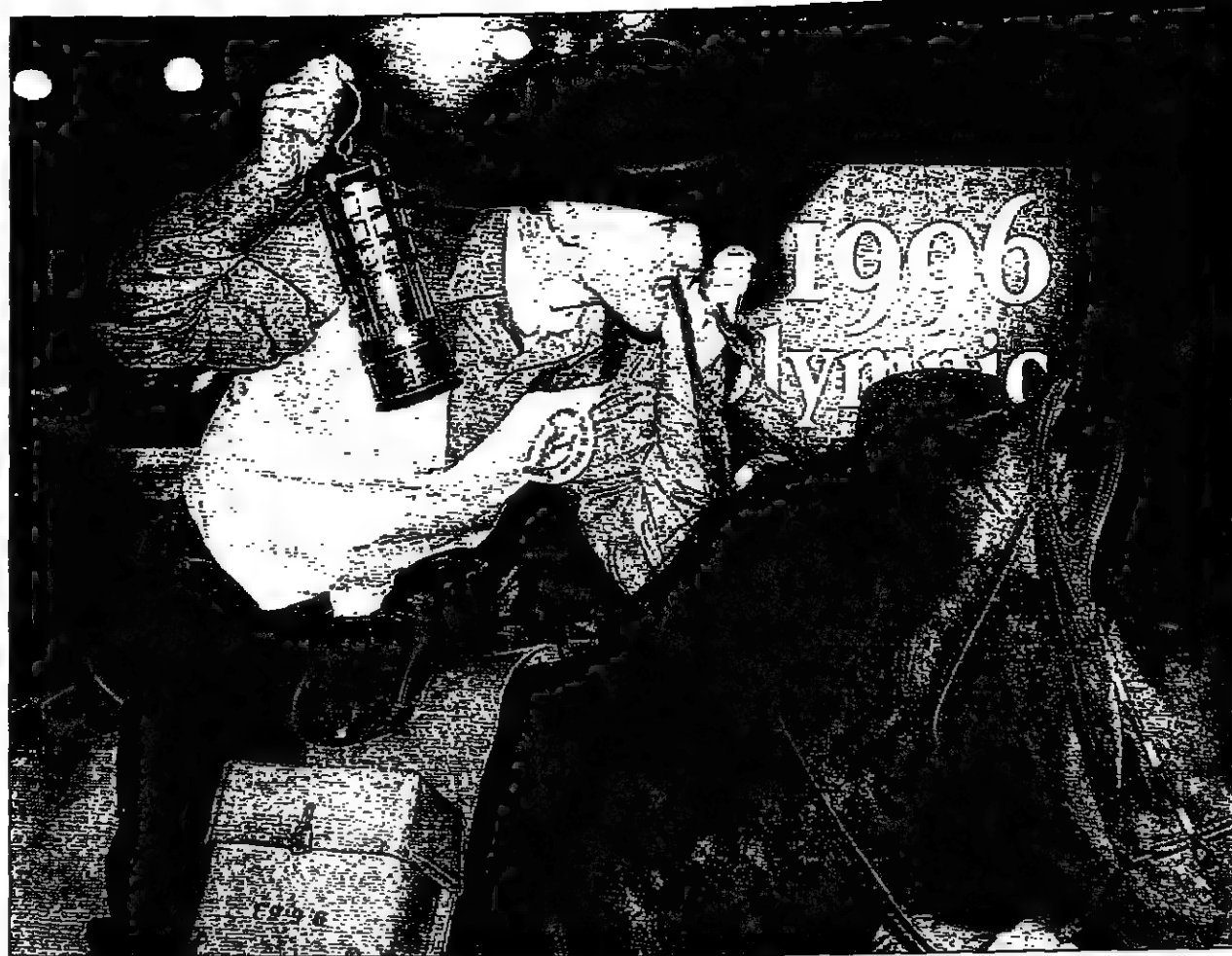
With the help of his wife Victoria Reggie, a Washington lawyer he married two years ago, Mr Kennedy appears finally to have exorcised the ghosts of his past and settled into a healthy routine of family life. "Basically, I am sort of back in shape or getting there," Mr Kennedy, 64, said recently. "I think I am more alert and able to put in long days and be more effective."

Evidence of the renaissance has never been more obvious than in recent weeks when Mr Kennedy has been more outspoken on the Senate floor than any of his colleagues, Democrat or Republican.

He has also become a real problem for Bob Dole, the Republican presidential contender who had hoped to employ his celebrated legislative skills in Congress to enhance his campaign for the Oval Office.

Mr Kennedy recently co-sponsored a healthcare reform Bill through the Senate, which defeated Mr Dole's efforts to include tax-deferred medical savings accounts, and then played a similar role with new immigration legislation the next week. He had also tried to force a Senate vote on increasing the minimum hourly wage by 90 cents, to \$5.15 (£3.40). Although Mr Dole avoided the vote, the congressional manoeuvring required him to spend nearly 52 hours of work during an important two-week period on legislation which should have taken just two days.

The sand was slipping through our hands and Kennedy put the minimum wage on the map," said Scott Sutherland, of the Labour Department. "He is a metaphor for the Democratic revival; the guy is everywhere."



Zane Hollingsworth holds the Olympic flame aloft as he carries it on the Pony Express trail, from Julesburg, Colorado. A team of riders was carrying the flame from Colorado through Nebraska, on its way to Atlanta, Georgia, where the Games begin in July. High winds meant it had to be protected in a lamp

Gay marriages trap is set for Clinton

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Republican Congress is preparing a Bill banning government recognition of homosexual marriages as its latest ploy to embarrass President Clinton. The idea is Mr Clinton will either have to veto the

Defence of Marriage Act and offend millions of mainstream voters in an election year, or sign it and upset the gay community that overwhelmingly supported him in 1992.

"We fully expect the President... to stand up to this gratuitous gay-bashing, and we will hold the President

accountable," said a spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a homosexual lobbying group.

The White House said Mr Clinton opposed gay marriages but had yet to decide on the Bill, which Bob Dole, his Republican challenger, has jointly sponsored. To veto it would take enormous courage. The President and his advisers still vividly remember the drubbing he suffered for seeking to lift the ban on homosexuals in the military early in his presidency.

With six months to go before the presidential election, the race lacks any great overarching theme. Mr Dole is determined to portray Mr Clinton as "knee-deep in the swamps of liberalism". He denounces a handful of allegedly liberal judges appointed by Mr Clinton and demands a repeal of Mr Clinton's tiny 1993 increase in the petrol tax. The President meanwhile is tacking progressively rightwards, and every other day he announces some initiative promoting conservative values.

Dole challenges defence policies

BY TOM RHODES

REPUBLICANS fire an opening salvo against President Clinton's defence policies this week by reviving the national debate over Star Wars, the anti-missile technology that embodied the latter days of the Cold War.

Both houses of Congress are to debate legislation introduced by Senator Bob Dole, the Republican presidential nominee, which would force America to deploy a national missile defence system by 2003. Almost certain to pass Congress, the Defend America Act sets the stage for a battle with the White House over what Republicans say is Mr Clinton's inadequate commitment to defence.

Newt Gingrich, the Speaker, will sponsor the Act

through the House of Representatives this week alongside a \$267 billion (£177 billion) military authorisation Bill. That contains \$13 billion more than the Pentagon requested and Mr Clinton, who vetoed the military authorisation Bill last year when it mandated a missile defence system, is expected to do so again.

Polls suggest fading Cold War memories have left Americans more concerned about the economy than defence, but Dole aides believe the debate will reinject the issue of character and leadership into a flagging campaign. In recent speeches, Mr Dole has said the President's lack of support for a missile system was proof of his military weakness.

Jet hunt given gun guard for alligators

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A POLICE sharpshooter stood guard yesterday over recovery workers at the marshy Florida crash site of the DC9, piloted by Candalyn Kubeck, that was lost on Saturday. The marksman's target: alligators.

The presence of an armed man illustrates the complexity and unpleasantness of the clean-up of Flight 592. The jet's "black box" flight recorder was retrieved by chance after a US Navy diver stepped on it. Sonar search machines had been unable to penetrate the murky, waist-high swamp waters of the Everglades.

The biggest piece of human remains to have been found so far is a kneecap. The bodies of the 109 victims, who included three Britons, were perhaps obliterated, maybe sucked into the mud, or swiftly devoured by the creatures that live in the dark marshes. In addition to the alligators, snakes and large mosquitoes, recovery workers have had to contend with the tall saw grass, so called because its blades are as sharp as a sword. Brush against it accidentally and you are left with a deep gash.

The crash split hundreds of gallons of aircraft fuel into the stagnant waters, further complicating the task faced by the divers, who have had to don stifling protective suits and whose time in the water is limited to 20 minutes. Underwater visibility is limited to a couple of inches and the mud and muck of rotting vegetation sometimes become so glutinous that fit men can barely move. Through this stinking biological soup the alligators move with ease, hunting for more human flesh.

Experienced workers have been left demoralised and disturbed by the investigation. Robert Francis, the vice-chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said: "This is tough stuff out there. They are having to dress up in bio-hazard equipment, gloves, then putting on large rubber suits on top of that, and masks." To make matters worse, tornadoes have been forecast for Florida.



Kubeck: pilot was one of 109 people who died

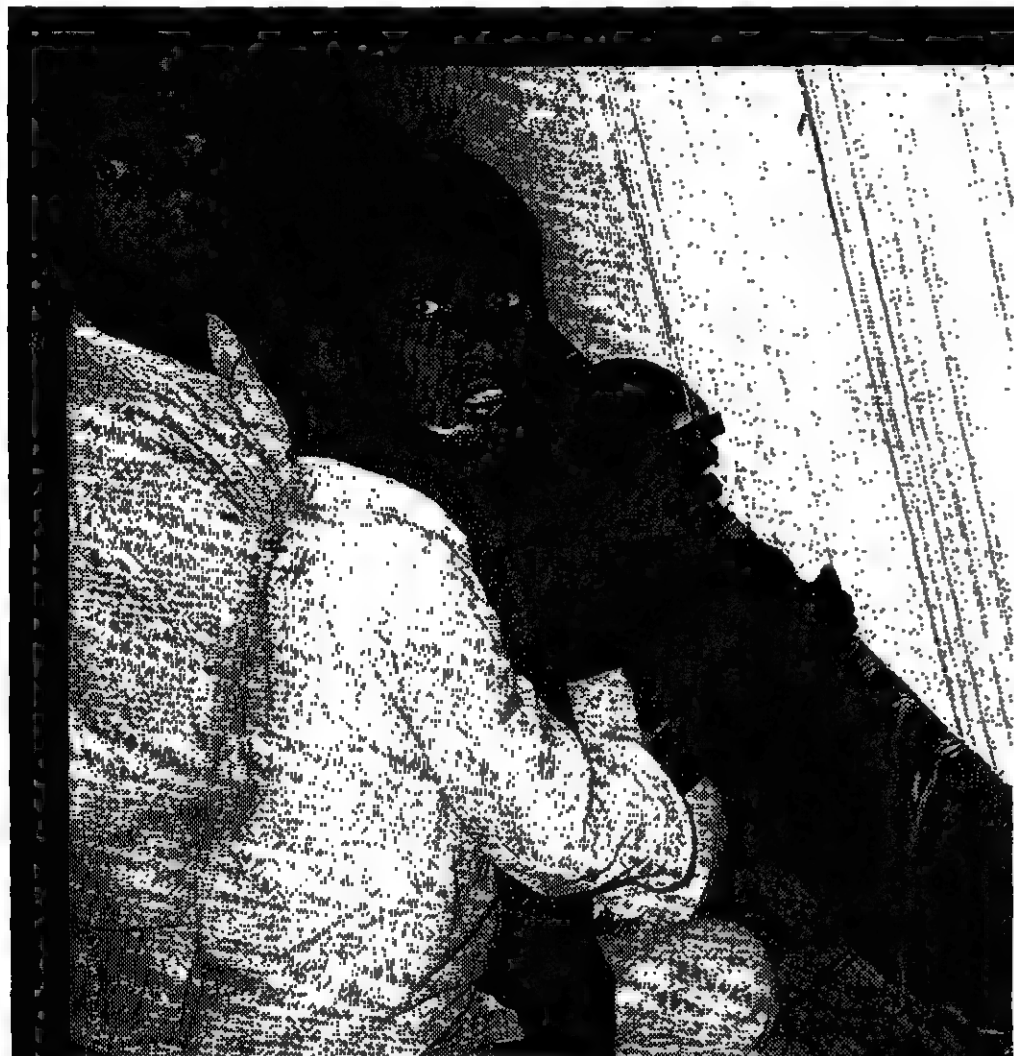
Indian leader claim

INDIA'S Prime Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, has claimed that the country's economic growth is the result of the leadership of the Indian National Congress party. He said that the party's policies have been responsible for the country's economic success and that the government is committed to maintaining this growth. Rao also mentioned that the government is working to improve the living standards of the Indian people and to create more jobs. He emphasized the importance of the Congress party in the country's development and its role in ensuring a stable and prosperous future for India.

Everest spar

A PROMINENT climber has been better known for his role in the 1995 Everest expedition. He is a member of the British Mount Everest expedition and has been involved in several other high-altitude climbing projects. His experience and leadership skills have been highly valued by the expedition team. He has also been involved in various environmental and conservation efforts in the Himalayas. His commitment to the sport and the environment has earned him a reputation as a dedicated and skilled climber.

Most e work h



than animals because an animal can roam when it is hungry.

September There is a big welt on my arm where I was whipped yesterday for falling asleep at the loom.

October The boss says we are behind on the carpet. We are too slow. So instead of starting at six we will start at four. And instead of stopping at eight we will stop at 11. Three boys are crying but I feel too tired to cry.

November A big commotion today. Nageshwar and his two younger brothers escaped.

December Nageshwar is back and we have been told that the same thing will happen to us if we try to escape. He has been branded with hot iron rods.

January I want to study, I want to be a teacher, and when I grow up I will earn money and help my father out of his debt. That's what I want to do. If I get out of here.

DIARY OF A SURVIVOR AGED 8 1/2

February I don't know why I am here. I think my Papa sold me to the boss to learn a trade and now the boss says I must do exactly what he tells me.

March It's the same every day. We go from our beds to the loom at six. No-one must talk. We tie tiny knots all day, the smallest ones on the carpet because we have small fingers. Work, work, work. My fingers crack and weep and sometimes my eyes get all blurred. We get a cup of dahl and half an hour to rest then go back to the loom till night time. There is no more food. We are too tired to play.

April Paro talked today and the boss lashed her with the cane. He shouted at us "If you children speak you are not giving your whole attention to the product."

May My fingers bled again and the boss got angry with me for getting blood on the loom. He says I will work extra hours for the next two days and I will be fined and that will increase my father's debt to him. I cried when he talked about Papa.

June The boy who lost a hand, poor Rangila, he fainted today. We begged the boss to open the window. "The mud walls are hot sir. The thermometer says 105 sir." But the window stays shut to keep out the insects that eat the wool.

July Not much light gets through the polythene slats in the roof. It's hard to see the pattern. I made mistakes today and I'm frightened what will happen when the boss finds out.

August In bed tonight, Nageshwar told me his plan to escape. He is brave but he is bigger than me. He said we live worse

This diary is based on interviews with Madan Ram and other children recently working in carpet factories in Uttar Pradesh, India.

These children have been rehabilitated with the help of Christian Aid, but in India alone an estimated 15 million children still spend their entire childhoods slaving in bonded labour to help their parents out of debt.

Christian Aid works to fight child labour in countries throughout the Third World. We can't do this without your help. Please give all you can in Christian Aid Week.

I enclose a cheque/PO made payable to Christian Aid for: £250 ☐ £200 ☐ £100 ☐ £50 ☐ £25 ☐ £10 ☐ Other £ Or please debit my credit card.

(Access/Visa/Other please specify)

Signature

Address

Card No.

Name

Expiry Date

*Gift Aid

Send your donation to: Christian Aid, Freepost HR8192, Manchester M1 9AZ.

Registered Charity No 256003

OW00TOS/2

Christian Aid
We believe in life before death

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Christian Aid Week. May 12-18. Give now. Ring 0345 000 300.

HIGH SPEC, LOW SPEND

PLUS THE QUALITY YOU EXPECT FROM BRITAIN'S LEADING HIGH STREET STATIONER!



Canon Starwriter 400

Wordprocessor

Fully portable 28k wordprocessor

with 1000-line printing and 100

dot resolution L2D screen.

Also built-in real time clock, 1000

and 10000 character

RYMAN SPECIAL OFFER

WAS £429.00 NOW £399.99

PLUS FREE

Sheet Feeder

worth £116.32



Brother 470

Fax Machine

Ideal for personal or

business use, a simple-to-use

fax with auto paper cutter,

30m paper roll,

15 number

memory and

text smoothing

function.

WAS £299.00

RYMAN SPECIAL PRICE

NOW £269.99



Oregon

AM389C Organizer

24k memory, pocket size with 14

character 3 line display, 3 separate

memo pads, calculator, alarm,

world time, auto red transfer and

optional PC link.

WAS £24.99

RYMAN SPECIAL PRICE

NOW £29.99

Ryman
the stationer

THERE'S A RYMAN STORE NEAR YOU!

All prices are inclusive of VAT at 17.5%. Products are subject to availability. E.A.O.L.

FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE

FREEPHONE

0321 300399

مكتبة من الأصل

Indian Left names leader and stakes claim to govern

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA looks likely to produce a fragile centre-left government after an embarrassing but successful scramble last night to find a compromise prime ministerial candidate who wants the job. The possible new leader of 950 million people is largely unknown: H. D. Deve Gowda, Chief Minister of the southern state of Karnataka.

Bangalore, capital of Karnataka, is the heart of India's booming high-technology and computer software industries. Mr Gowda has held his job for 18 months and is a firm supporter of unfettered foreign investment and further liberalisation of the economy, which was partly opened to international competition by the outgoing Congress Party Government.

There was chaos throughout the day after the powerful Communist Party announced their refusal to participate in any government they could not dominate. That raised the prospect of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) taking power amid the turmoil of its rivals, India's 130 million Muslims would have been appalled.

The Marxists refused to put forward their leader, the octogenarian Jyoti Basu, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, as the prime ministerial candidate for the National Front-Left alliance of parties. They said that they saw no reason to abandon their tradi-

tion of not joining coalition governments. That left the alliance searching hurriedly for somebody else, and it settled on V. P. Singh, after the Communists said yesterday they were ready to support any government that would stop the BJP taking power so long as it was not led by the hated Congress.

However, they said they would not join any administration. So great was the political chaos yesterday it seemed conceivable that P. V. Narasimha Rao, the outgoing Prime Minister, might try to return to power as head of a coalition.

After choosing Mr Gowda, a delegation of leaders of the National Front-Left Front, also known as the Third Force, called on President Sharma to present its case for being invited to form a government. It would be backed by the Congress Party either as a member of the Government or as a parliamentary ally. Mr Sharma is expected to decide this week who should have first shot at proving the ability to govern.

After a day of wild swings of the political pendulum the likelihood of the BJP taking power has again receded. The parliamentary arithmetic is against it, although if it were given the opportunity to try to form an administration it would gain an important advantage in trying to coax MPs to its side.

With its allies it commands 195 seats in the 534-seat Lok Sabha (lower house of parliament), the National Front-Left Front and its allies have 112, while Congress has 136, its worst showing in five decades. The rest are held by regional parties and a handful of independents.

The BJP has been tempting a range of small parties with offers of political largesse in return for their support. It would need to win over about 75 more MPs to gain a majority, although it thinks that it could form a viable government with substantially fewer than that.

Once in power it could further lure small groups and independents with offers of ministerial posts and other political temptations.

It would doubtless seek to bribe MPs for their backing: the Congress did the same when it fell narrowly short of a parliamentary majority in 1991.

Train crash: Thirty-four people were killed and 20 seriously injured when a train slammed into a bus at an unmanned railway crossing in southern India, the United News of India reported.

The news agency said that the accident happened at the town of Kottamkottai, in the southern state of Kerala.

The bus, carrying a marriage party, was mangled beyond recognition, the news agency said. It did not say how many passengers were on the train or the bus. (Reuters)



A rickshaw carries a man and his wife, injured in Monday's tornado, to a health clinic in a Bangladesh village

Bangladesh tornado claims 400 lives

FROM AHMED FAZL IN DHAKA

RESCUE workers found 165 bodies yesterday amid the debris of homes and uprooted trees after a tornado left a trail of death and devastation through central Bangladesh.

Officials said more than 400 people had died and thousands were made homeless in Monday's tornado which laid waste a string of small towns and rice-farming villages. The death toll could rise, according to officials who put the number of injured at 32,000. In

some villages, rescue workers said bodies of children were hanging from palm trees. Survivors had clung on to trees to save themselves from the 92mph winds.

In Tangail, the worst-affected district, 70 miles north of the capital Dhaka, survivors said 300 people were missing as the winds uprooted electricity posts and cut road links. State-controlled radio said access to remote mud and straw hamlets was still impossible.

The thousands of injured were unable to receive urgent treatment as local hospitals

ran out of blood supplies. Emergency operations were conducted by candlelight. More than 500 injured people were ferried by lorries to a hospital 40 miles away as local medical facilities, already overburdened, refused to admit more patients. Abdus Shakoor, a doctor at Tangail district hospital said: "We are expecting more deaths from epidemics breaking out."

Abdus Sattar Khan, the district commissioner of Tangail, said initial rescue efforts were hampered by debris. It was only yesterday morning

that rescue workers were able to gauge the extent of destruction after roads were cleared to reach three other devastated towns, Kalihati, Bashail and Mirzapur.

In one village, Barabhatta, a police officer said: "Some families have no one left to mourn." Another officer said: "The whole village has turned into a vast grave." The tornado, although short-lived, reached neighbouring Jamalpur district. Media organisations described property losses as huge and damage to crops as substantial.

US risks Chinese trade war

Washington: The Clinton Administration will today identify more than \$2 billion (£1.3 billion) worth of Chinese goods on which it plans to impose punitive sanctions after the apparent breakdown of trade talks yesterday (Martin Fletcher writes).

The goods will be primarily textiles and electronics, and the sanctions will be implemented in 30 days unless Peking agrees to Washington's demand that it end widespread Chinese piracy of American music, films and computer software. China has threatened to retaliate, raising the prospect of a multi-billion dollar trade war.

7,000 firefighters tackle blazes

Moscow: More than 7,000 firefighters were tackling forest fires in the Ural Mountains, Siberia and the Russian Far East as a heatwave and high winds fanned blazes in many areas, officials said. "A total of 6,657 forest fires have been registered in these regions," said Karl Smolnikov, of the Emergency Situations Ministry. However, he said that there were no reports of deaths. (AP)

UN expert quits over lack of cash

Geneva: The United Nations human rights expert investigating violations in Burma has resigned in protest at the lack of funds to carry out his work. Yozo Yokota, a Tokyo university law professor, was one of 12 UN experts monitoring violations in countries considered to have the worst human rights records. (AP)

Troops move in to free hostages

Jakarta: Indonesian troops have moved into the jungles of Irian Jaya to rescue 11 hostages, including four Britons, held by separatist rebels for more than four months. The move came after talks between the Red Cross and the rebels broke down. (AP)

Everest spares Manhattan millionairess

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A PROMINENT Manhattan millionairess, better suited to climbing New York's social peaks, was on the ill-fated expedition to Everest that claimed the life of Rob Hall.

Sandy Hill Pittman, estranged wife of the founder of the pop music cable television channel MTV, narrowly avoided death on the mountain after she lost her way in a 70mph blizzard. Mrs Pittman, 41, was losing strength quickly when she was found by two colleagues

who kept her spirits up by singing songs until Neal Beidleman, the team leader, arrived with an oxygen tank.

Mrs Pittman's husband, Rob, arranged a \$42 million (£28 million) corporate buyout last year and, before their marital strife, the Pittmans were big on the Manhattan party scene. She had long spoken of her desire to climb Everest and hoped to finance the expedition, organised by an American-based company called Mountain Madness.

Mrs Pittman, who is credited with the looks of Jackie Onassis, took an espresso coffee machine with her up the moun-

tain. She has appeared in *Esquire* magazine's "Women We Love" list and *McCall's* "15 Women Who Will Brighten Your Future". Before she married Mr Pittman in 1979, she toiled as a writer on *Mademoiselle* and *Bride's* magazines, but by 1990 she was being described as a "princess" of Manhattan.

In the competitive social mill of New York, it helps to have a distinctive line in small talk. To be able to drop into the conversation that one has just conquered Everest is something of a social ace. Mrs Pittman has been a keen hill-walker and rock-climber since the age of 13.



Pittman: took espresso machine up mountain

Widow speaks of last call from mountain

BY RONALD FAUX

THE widow of the New Zealand mountain guide who died on Everest spoke yesterday of the satellite call she had received from her husband, Rob Hall, before he died.

Jan Arnold, who is expecting their baby, said: "He managed to impart some peacefulness to me, because I slept for six or seven hours."

Ms Arnold, who climbed Everest with her husband in 1993, said he told her he was frostbitten and weak but was trying to save oxygen to get down.

She gave up hope on Sunday when she learnt he had not reached a lower camp. "My heart sank. I could totally picture where he was."

Most exercisers only work half your body.



If you want to be completely fit, you need an exerciser that's better by half. And unlike ordinary exercisers — such as bikes and steppers — which concentrate only on your legs, a NordicTrack works your entire body at once.

That means you can trim and firm all your major muscle groups at the same time. Including those in your stomach, arms and chest.

A more effective workout altogether.

By working your arms and legs simultaneously, you achieve a superior total-body aerobic workout. As little as 20 minutes, three times a week, helps to strengthen your heart and lungs, lower your blood pressure and reduce your cholesterol level.

As a result, you get much more out of each workout. Plus, you can burn an average of 890 calories per hour. That's 24% more than with an exercise bike, 35% more than a stepper and 20% more than a treadmill.

Fitness at home with NordicTrack.

Call NordicTrack now for your free 30 day in-home trial. If, like most of our customers you choose to keep the machine, you can now spread the cost by paying in interest-free instalments.

Call now for details of your nearest NordicTrack Fitness Centre or to order your free brochure and exercise video.

0800 616179
PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE DT166

NordicTrack
THE WORLD'S BEST AEROBIC EXERCISERS

Yes, I would like to know more about the world's best aerobic exercisers. Please send my free video ☐ and brochure ☐ without obligation.

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss/Ms) _____
Address _____
Country _____ Postcode _____
Tel (day) _____ Tel (even) _____

Send to: NordicTrack (UK) Ltd., Dept. DT166, Freepost CV 2617, Warwick CV34 6BR. No stamp is required. Alternatively you can fax us on 01926 470811.

Phone lines are open 9am-9pm Monday-Friday and 10am-2pm Saturday. Calls may be recorded and monitored. Issued by Midland Bank plc



Meet Alistair.

Alistair saved himself £10 a month by changing to Midland home insurance.

He did it by calling **DIRECT 0800 277 377**

Like you, Alistair saw an advert in the paper claiming that Midland could lower his household insurance. Alistair's got some quite expensive furniture and his insurance premiums had been fairly hefty, so he felt that any saving would be welcome. He rang us on 0800 277 377, was given a free quotation, double-checked the policy document (which is available on request) and was pleasantly surprised. Maybe you would be, too.



MIDLAND
The Listening Bank
Member HSBC Group

Moscow plans pact with Belorussia if Nato expands

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

RUSSIA threatened Nato yesterday with a new military alliance between Moscow and neighbouring Belorussia if the Western organisation went ahead to recruit new members from Eastern Europe.

General Pavel Grachev, the Russian Defence Minister, who is strongly opposed to Nato's expansion plans, envisaged Russian troops serving alongside those of Belorussia in the former Soviet republic. The warning was seen in London as another round in Moscow's continuing campaign to thwart Nato's plans to allow countries such as Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic to join the alliance, although not until the turn of the century.

General Grachev was quoted by Interfax in Moscow as saying that President Lukashenko of Belorussia backed a military alliance with Russia if Nato went ahead with its expansion plans. The general referred to the creation of a "powerful" Russian-Belorussian military group on the territory of Belorussia, according to Interfax.

Russia and Belorussia "are ready to undertake reciprocal measures in reply to the possible expansion of Nato eastwards", the Russian Defence Minister said. Moscow was particularly concerned

about the possible entry of Poland and Lithuania into the Western alliance, because of Russia's Baltic military enclave of Kaliningrad.

According to the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies, Belorussia has total active armed forces of 98,400 and about 289,500 reservists. There are still 18 Russian intercontinental ballistic missiles on Belorussian territory.

British diplomatic sources said Russia and Belorussia

Britain backs chemicals ban

Geneva: David Davis, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, last night announced Britain's formal ratification of the chemical weapons convention which bans the development, production, stockpiling and use of an entire class of weapons (Peter Capella writes).

The convention also establishes the most comprehensive verification system ever created for such a regime. It will enter into force six months after it has been ratified by 65 countries. So far, 50 nations — including Germany, Canada and New Zealand — have ratified it.

were already very close and a military alliance between them would not be seen as a significant development.

In the meantime, Western diplomats at the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva expressed confidence yesterday that a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty would be signed by the end of next month.

David Davis, the Foreign Office Minister, who spoke at the conference yesterday, said a test ban treaty would impose real constraints on all the declared nuclear powers, including Britain. He added: "This is the price which we are prepared to pay because we believe that a universal and effectively verifiable [treaty] can make an important contribution to preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons."

At present, India is still holding out for an agreement under which a test ban treaty would be signed only if the five official nuclear weapons countries — America, Russia, Britain, France and China — committed themselves to a programme of nuclear disarmament. China also wants to continue with "peaceful nuclear explosions". However, British diplomats expect India and China to sign a comprehensive ban, China said yesterday it was prepared to show flexibility on its demand.



Spanish beau and his Southern belle: Crown Prince Felipe and, in New York, Gisel "Gigi" Howard

Spanish heir eyes a Georgia peach

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID AND QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

SPANISH royal-watchers are abuzz with speculation that Crown Prince Felipe, 28, may soon announce his engagement to an American "Southern belle".

The heir to the throne met Gisel Howard, 24, psychology student, last year while studying for a Masters degree in international relations at Washington's Georgetown University. Miss Howard, who lives in New York and is known as "Gigi" to family and friends, is the daughter of a telecommunications company executive in Georgia.

Rumours of an announcement soon have been fuelled by Miss Howard's recent secret visit to Madrid, revealed by *Tiempo*, probably to meet the King and Queen.

Miss Howard is expected to be called as a witness in a Manhattan court next month by prosecution lawyers in the trial of a paparazzo accused of plotting to bug the phone line at her New York flat. Carlos Arriaza, of Florida, hoped to capitalise on tapes of Miss Howard talking to her royal boyfriend, it is alleged.

Georgia appears relaxed, or perhaps is simply unaware, that one of its "peaches" has a chance to become the first American to marry European royalty since Grace Kelly caught the eye of Monaco's Prince Rainier.

Imports leave French gourmets choking over their truffles

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE traditionalists of French gastronomy are fighting a valiant rear-guard action to ensure that the country's greatest delicacies, from mustard to truffles, are produced in France.

Almost all the seeds in the celebrated Dijon mustard are imported from Canada, the great black truffle of the Dordogne is facing stiff competition from Chinese rivals, and French *viniculteurs* are battling a swelling tide of wines from the Antipodes and Americas.

For some purists, the influx of what are considered traditional French foods from foreign parts is even more insidious than the erosion of the French language feared by the *Académie Française*.

The three biggest mustard-makers in France have now banded together with the Agriculture Ministry in a project to develop a high-yield strain of mustard that would be

viable for French farmers and turn the fields of Burgundy yellow again.

Agricultural production of mustard virtually died out in the Dijon region two decades ago, as farmers found it more economical to grow other crops, and makers of the condiment turned to mass mustard-producers in North America.

More than £1 million has been spent on research so far and the consortium hopes to have 12,500 acres under production in the Dijon region, meeting almost one-third of French mustard needs by 2000. An additional lure is the prospect of creating an *appellation contrôlée* system similar to that for wine, cider and camembert, which would guarantee that the product was "Dijon mustard" from Burgundy, as distinct from Dijon mustard from Saskatchewan.

Revitalising the French

truffle industry is an even more daunting task, since science has yet to reveal the secret of how to grow them, although the French Government is financing research. In recent years the price of French truffles has steadily risen as the quantity has declined. A black truffle can cost as much as £180 a pound.

Trying to persuade French farmers to plant oak trees and then wait to see if the elusive fungus appears in the roots is even harder than convincing them to turn back to mustard. However, if France cannot produce enough of its own truffles, it is certainly not going to stand idle while entrepreneurs from Eastern Europe or China fill the gap.

Some experts insist that a non-French truffle is a contradiction in terms and insipid to boot, but already, as *The Economist* reported recently, there is talk of "truffle quotas" in the south of France.

DO YOU

UNDERSTAND THIS SIMPLE

EQUATION?

1 GNVQ = 2As

There are 197 universities and institutes of higher education in this

country. The overwhelming majority agree that Advanced GNVQs and

A levels can be regarded as equal. The recent Deakin Report agrees.

The CBI and employers have said that the skills acquired on

vocational courses are just as valuable in a work environment as any

academic training. And yet thousands of parents, maybe you amongst

them, still don't seem to consider vocational qualifications and

academic qualifications of equal value. Why? It's certainly nothing to

do with the facts: 84% of Advanced GNVQ students go on to higher

levels of education or employment. 89% of Advanced GNVQ students

who applied for degree courses last year were offered places

compared with the UCAS average of 66%. Our simple equation means

that every student will be given an equal opportunity to achieve

their full potential. If you're still struggling with it, perhaps you

should sign up for a GNVQ yourself. BTCL. IT'S AN EDUCATION.

BTCL

Business & Technology
Education Council

New Nokia with 3 months free line rental.

NOKIA
MODEL 909.

- ◆ 40 name/number memory
- ◆ Up to 150 mins talk-time
- ◆ Up to 26 hrs standby-time
- ◆ Complete with battery and fast charger
- ◆ Weight 256g

FREE CONNECTION TO VODAFONE LOWCALL WITH NO TARIFF INCREASES GUARANTEED FOR LIFE

Monthly Rental	£15 (£12.77 + VAT)
Peak Rate Calls (UK Only)	50p per min (42.5p + VAT)
Off Peak Calls	20p per min (17p + VAT)
Peak Times 8.00-19.00 Mon to Fri	Mandatory 10-minute billing charged at £1.77 inc VAT per month. Line rental (debit) monthly in advance and airtime charges will be debited to your nominated credit/charge or Delta card. Calls charged in units of 30 seconds after the first minute.

GUARANTEED PEACE OF MIND
Your phone is covered by our 14 days no quibble money back promise.



LIMITED OFFER
£4.99
INC. VAT

- FREE LINE RENTAL - for 3 months - save £45 inc VAT
- FREE CONNECTION - to Vodafone LowCall
- NO TARIFF INCREASES - guaranteed for life
- FREE ACCESSORIES - in-car adaptor and leather case together worth over £50

What
Cellphone
EXCELLENCE

Cellphones

ORDER NOW WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD DETAILS FOR FREE DELIVERY IN 4 WORKING DAYS

FREephone 0800 000 888

CREDIT CARD ORDERING HOTLINE. WEEKDAYS 9AM TO 7PM. WEEKENDS 9AM TO 6PM.

PLEASE HAVE YOUR CREDIT CARD AND THIS ADVERTISEMENT READY WHEN YOU CALL AND QUOTE REF 2001. CREDIT WE ARE ABLE TO ACCEPT (OTHER CREDIT CARDS) Other subject to status and a standard finance contract for each phone with Cellphones Direct Ltd. 155 Lower Richmond Road, Richmond-upon-Thames TW9 4LR. Full mobile details and terms and conditions of this offer are available on request. Copyright Registered No 2395272

Ogoni plea to Nigeria

THE Ogoni people of Nigeria have written a letter to the British Prime Minister, Mr. John Major, asking him to help them in their struggle against the military government in Nigeria.

The letter, which was written by the Ogoni people's representative council, the Ogoni National Council, and signed by its president, Dr. R. O. Ogoni, was sent to Mr. Major by a Nigerian diplomat in London.

The letter says that the Ogoni people have been suffering from the military government's policies for over a decade. It asks Mr. Major to use his influence to help the Ogoni people achieve their goals.

The letter also asks Mr. Major to help the Ogoni people in their struggle against the military government. It says that the Ogoni people are ready to make any sacrifice for their freedom.

The letter is a plea to the British Prime Minister to help the Ogoni people in their struggle against the military government in Nigeria. It is a call for international support for the Ogoni people's fight for freedom.

The letter is a plea to the British Prime Minister to help the Ogoni people in their struggle against the military government in Nigeria. It is a call for international support for the Ogoni people's fight for freedom.

The letter is a plea to the British Prime Minister to help the Ogoni people in their struggle against the military government in Nigeria. It is a call for international support for the Ogoni people's fight for freedom.

For a great fun half-term holiday on Hoverscraft and 55 minutes you visit Nausicaä sea-world.

STILL THE FAST

Letter describes ordeal of 19 detainees as Shell faces new pressure over Saro-Wiwa hanging

Ogoni activists in plea to West over Nigeria 'frame-up'

BY MICHAEL DYNES

THE appalling conditions in which a group of Ogoni detainees have languished in Port Harcourt prison for two years, charged with complicity in murder, have been disclosed in documents passed to *The Times*.

A handwritten letter smuggled out of Nigeria's infamous Port Harcourt jail by a guard describes how the prisoners are being kept in a cramped, vermin-infested cell, where the only water available has been contaminated by decaying human remains.

The guard was bribed by the prisoners to take the letter out to highlight their desperate plight.

Their disclosures coincide with the annual general meeting in London and The Hague today of Shell, which is expected to reignite the international storm of protest that followed the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Ogoni minority rights activist, in the wake of his campaign against the oil giant's operations in Nigeria.

Shell is accused of despoiling parts of the Niger delta, transforming it into a modern-day "Dante's Inferno" as a result of reckless drilling for oil, and disregarding the devastation caused to the environment from oil and gas leaks. The oil company is said to have close links with the military regime of General Sani Abacha.

The letter's signatories, appealing for international pressure to help to secure the release of the 19 Ogoni detainees, say they were arrested in May 1994, and "framed up" for the murder of four tribal leaders. They have yet to come to trial.

The four were bludgeoned

to death by an irate mob after bitter internal rivalries between moderates and hardliners within the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (Mosop).

Independent observers say that the Nigerian military authorities, who have been accused of exploiting the murders in an effort to discredit Mosop, failed to prove that Saro-Wiwa ordered the murders. Similar doubts have also been cast on the guilt of the remaining 19 detainees.

The letter, which was

their food is so bad that "we are all severely anaemic and malnourished". They add that "our poor nutritional state, coupled with the torture received every day", resulted in the death of one of their number last August.

"Everybody suffers from one disease or another," the letter says. "Also pathetic is our state of complete nakedness, as our properties, including clothing, have been looted, and our homes burnt by the armed forces or their agents."

One senior Ogoni activist, who spoke to *The Times* by telephone, said: "The prisoners are still in a terrible condition. All are desperate, hungry and sick."

"They are all being held close to the site where Ken Saro-Wiwa and the others were executed last November, and are waiting for the same thing to happen to them." The activist, a high-ranking member of the banned Mosop, said that he

welcomed Shell's recent commitment to redress Ogoni grievances. "But the company must now put pressure on the Government to bring about their release, otherwise the Ogoni people can have no faith in Shell," he added.

He also complained that the Nigerian military had been coercing Ogoni people to sign documents inviting Shell to return to the area and promising not to obstruct the company's activities.

Before he was hanged on November 10, 1995, the first day of the Commonwealth conference in New Zealand, Saro-Wiwa had accused Shell of carrying out a "slow geno-

cide" of the Ogoni people and despoiling their lands. Vast wealth had been extracted from the mineral-rich region, virtually none of which had been passed on to the Ogoni people, he said.

Brian Anderson, the managing director of Shell Nigeria, said last week that the company was prepared to clean up all oil spillages and rebuild relations with local

people through health and youth training initiatives. The company closed down its operations in Ogoniland in 1993.

Anita Roddick, founder of the Body Shop, who has championed the Ogoni cause over the past three years, said she was outraged by the letter from the Ogoni 19. "We will fight to stop them suffering the same fate as Ken Saro-Wiwa," she said. "Shell failed to save

Ken, yet they say they support human rights and respect the environment." Ms Roddick added. "Shell must demand the immediate release of the Ogoni 19, an end to show trials, and a withdrawal of the military. Then they can clean up their environmental mess and compensate the Ogoni people for the destruction they have caused."

Protesters are expected to disrupt Shell's simultaneous annual shareholders' meeting at the Queen Elizabeth II Centre in London and The Hague.

In addition, PIRC, a corporate governance consultancy based in the City, is urging shareholders to reject the annual report and accounts in an effort to highlight "concern over the company's policies in Nigeria".



Seventeen of the 19 detainees being held in Port Harcourt prison who signed the smuggled letter passed to *The Times* are, from left to right, top row: Samuel Asigha, Baribuma Kumanwee, Nyieda Nasikpo, Ngbaa Baovi, Baritule Lebe and Taaghalo Monsi; centre row: Friday Gburuma, Adam Kaa, Blessing Israel, Pop-Ghara Zor-Zor, above, and Kagbara Bassee; bottom row: John Banatu, Benjamin Kabari, Nwinbani Papa, Paul Deekor, Godwin Ghodor and Babina Vizor. Not pictured are Michael Doghala and Sampson Ntigne



Aristocrat flier takes off in high spirits for record round trip

FROM MARK HUBAND IN TANGIER

TWO Britons and an Irishman yesterday soared into the sky above Morocco in an attempt to become the first team to fly a single-engine aircraft around the African continent and to raise money for wildlife.

Bursting with high spirits, despite some trepidation and a two-day delay caused by bad weather in France, Lord Edward Manners, Johnny Beveridge and Dan Stevens flew out of Tangier at the start of their 16,000-mile trip. They are planning to make 53 stops and cover 27 countries.

The three men have packed their Cessna U206A light aircraft with communications equipment to relay up-to-date accounts of their three-month journey, and an extra fuel tank which will allow them to fly non-stop for up to 14 hours.

Shipping a beer after arriving in Tangier on Monday from Spain, Lord Edward, the 30-year-old son of the Duke of Rutland, said: "We have planned for what we can plan for. But the excitement and the adventure lie in the knowledge that there are going to be all sorts of things which are going to come at us which we can't plan for."

He has taken three months off from his marketing consultancy with British Airways to do the trip, which will finish in Tangier in late July.

Mr Beveridge, a 31-year-old



New York-based banker who was born in South Africa, says the trip will bring him in touch with countries which until now have largely been figures on a computer screen.

"Having spent the last four years trading emerging market debt, a significant amount of which is African, it's interesting to be visiting the African continent without a suit and a financial mission. This journey is a chance to live out a dream and make it a chal-

lenge as well." Dan Stevens, a London-based photographer, will take pictures and videotapes during the trip. The three are hoping to raise £200,000, which will be channelled through the Pan African Conservation Trust (Pact).

The journey is intended to increase awareness of projects identified by the Zoological Society of London as having value to animal and human populations. Increasingly, the populations of African coun-

tries have criticised conservationists for ignoring their needs while insisting on the protection of animals.

The 1992 Rio Earth Summit addressed this issue, and the Pact initiative reflects growing awareness of the complications involved in ensuring people are not ignored when the needs of rare and wild animals are debated.

The journey, which took two months to plan, will not cover Liberia and Somalia, because of the wars in those countries, and the United Nations ban on flights to Libya has removed it from the flightpath.

"We are a bit like three rookies at the moment," said Mr Stevens, 32. "But it's really exciting to be here. We have only been aware of it for a few days, but every day there's so much that happens."

□ Rabat: United Nations officials have closed three registration offices in the disputed Western Sahara because of deadlock in efforts to identify voters for a referendum on the territory's future, a UN spokeswoman said.

The offices have been handed over to Morocco. An official of the Polisario Front, which is seeking independence and fought Morocco until a ceasefire in September 1991, said that the prospect of a UN withdrawal made the resumption of hostilities "probable and imminent". (Reuters)

Mandela ready to see Abacha

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

PRESIDENT Mandela has cautiously announced a new South African-led initiative on Nigeria, saying he is prepared to meet the hardline military ruler, General Sani Abacha, provided the talks offer real prospects of success.

Speaking after talks with Sam Nujoma, the President of Namibia, at present visiting South Africa, Mr Mandela said Nigeria was of "great concern to us both". He disclosed that he had been approached by a number of "leading personalities" in Africa to meet General Abacha, who in recent months has appeared to be an increasingly isolated figure.

But Mr Mandela emphasised that he would hold talks only if they achieve positive results. "I'm not prepared to engage in any futile exercise," he said, referring to previous unproductive visits to Nigeria by South African envoys such as Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Thabo Mbeki, his Deputy President. "I must be assured that the meeting will be fruitful," he said.

His announcement came after a telephone conversation at the weekend with President Clinton about human rights in Nigeria. Western and other African leaders see Mr Mandela as offering the best hope of nudging the Nigerian regime towards democracy.

Ghana opens its doors to Liberian war refugees

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN TAKORADI, GHANA

THOUSANDS of tired and hungry Liberian refugees were given a temporary safe haven in Ghana yesterday and allowed to disembark from the *Bulk Challenge*, the rusty freighter that has been stranded at sea for ten days.

About 3,000 to 4,000 refugees, desperate to end what a United Nations spokesman described as a "voyage of the damned", left the ship at the western port of Takoradi after the authorities gave in to international pleas for mercy. "Ghana believes that these innocent civilians should not be made to suffer any more for the failure of their political and factional leaders," Muhammad Ibn Chamsas, the Deputy Foreign Minister, said.

Only a day earlier, however, Ghana had sent the ship away for a second time, joining Ivory Coast in declaring they could not support any more refugees on their soil. More than 350,000 Liberians have fled to neighbouring Ivory Coast and 15,000 to Ghana to escape the civil war.

Fierce fighting erupted again yesterday in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, as rival militia groups battled for territory and two main bridges leading into the city. At least 15 factional fighters were killed, many of them members of Charles Taylor's National Patriotic Front.

Monrovia has been racked by five weeks of fighting and looting.

Ghanaian officials said a new camp would be built for the refugees, but warned Liberia that it would not accept any more refugees. "There is a limit to our endurance," Mr Chamsas said.

In Geneva, Margherita Amodeo, a UNICEF spokeswoman, said some of the refugees would be transferred to a temporary camp for medical treatment. She said that the Nigerian freighter was also full of looted UN vehicles, computers and office equipment.

Ken Williams, the UNICEF representative in Accra, the Ghanaian capital, said the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees would supply camping gear and food from the World Food Programme.

"The crew on board are very wicked," said Albert Berry, a 26-year-old pharmacist from Monrovia who was on the *Bulk Challenge*. "They were selling food and water to us. We prepared for only three days' journey, but we were now in our tenth day at sea."

Mr Berry had jumped from the ship as it was forced to leave Takoradi for a second time on Monday night. He and 146 other Liberian and 126 Ghanaian refugees leaped from the Nigerian freighter on

to an accompanying medical barge, which was then forced to take them to shore. "We told the Ghanaian Navy to send us to land or kill us," Mr Berry said.

He said there was a "handful" of uniformed African peacekeepers on the *Bulk Challenge* who were sleeping in new cars which they had traded for arms before boarding the ship.

Kojo Essel, a Ghanaian carpenter who had been in Monrovia searching for relatives, said he jumped off the ship when he found that his own government would not help him.

Mr Essel said one man died of starvation and another woman of unknown causes during the journey that began in Monrovia on May 5. "Because we had been sleeping on the bare iron, most of them are suffering from lung diseases," he said.



£69

5 day return car + 5

THIS HALF-TERM VISIT FRANCE'S MANY PLAYGROUNDS. CALL NOW

For a great fun half-term holiday, at a great price, catch our SeaCat. Or our Hovercraft from Dover to Calais for £79. 5 day return car + 5. With the speed of our crossings, 35 minutes on Hovercraft and 55 minutes on SeaCat, you'll have more time to enjoy your stay in France. And on presentation of your Hoverspeed ticket, you'll receive a special discount when you visit Nausicaä sea-world and Bagatelle leisure park in Boulogne; Bal Parc theme park in Tournehem; and Marquenterre, a bird park at Rue. Book and travel before 30/06/96. Call Hoverspeed Reservations or see your local travel agent.

STILL THE FASTEST WAY TO FRANCE

HOVERSPEED
FAST FERRIES

CALL 01304 240 241

Terms and conditions: Only firm bookings will be accepted, no amendments or cancellations. Travel must be taken by 30.06.96 subject to limited availability.

Is the lord really playing God?

Lord Winston's offer of treatment to an HIV-positive woman has been widely condemned. But is it perhaps his critics who are arrogant

Scene: Outside the Pearly Gates. One doctor, newly deceased, approaches and is forbidden entry. He remonstrates, but to no avail. After a while a second doctor comes up and is also turned away. The same happens to a third doctor. The three are standing resentfully outside the portals when a fourth doctor sweeps up, his white coat flapping, his stethoscope like a medalion against his chest. St Peter rushes to open the gates and the doctor is ushered through them. The three rejected doctors complain: after all, why should that doctor be allowed through when their credentials were not deemed worthy. "Oh," says St Peter, "that's God, he just thinks he's a doctor!" Perhaps there is a bit too much of the student revue about that joke, but I can see why doctors might laugh ruefully at it. I'm not sure, right at the moment, how funny Professor Lord Winston could find it. There is scarcely a commentator who doesn't disapprove of his decision to give infertility treatment to a woman with HIV. And all of them condemn him for "playing God".

We all have a clear idea what we mean by the idea of "playing God" but I don't believe the concept makes sense. After all, if we believe that doctors are appropriating divine status whenever they give treatment that attempts to change the course nature, then the only logical response we have, all of us, is to become Christian Scientists.

Not many people would think of accusing a doctor of playing God if he removed an appendix, and yet without intervention anyone with appendicitis might well die of it. Unless we are quite half way round

the bend already, we don't accuse a doctor who thus saves someone's life of arrogantly presuming to do God's job better than he is doing it himself.

I'm sure that in many cultures the very idea of a heart transplant operation would seem shocking — positively blasphemous — but in our culture we would generally regard such a re-creation as primitive. So why, whenever a doctor does something of which we disapprove do we accuse him or her of arrogance, of playing God? There seems to be rather more arrogance in assuming that our opinions are one and the same with God's will.

As a committed atheist, I can see that my views on a non-existent God's putative plan are not to the point, but in medicine, God tends to be invoked not so much as a deity with a particular project, so much as the moral force of nature. But medicine must often argue with nature: infertility treatment itself would have no place in a world that thought that doctors had no business meddling with the state in which people find themselves naturally.

Now, I may not be religious, but Lord Winston is: and as a devout man, he is entirely satisfied that his behaviour is not contrary to the strictures of what is a pretty exiguous faith. His article yesterday was persuasive: for him it would have been unethical to let prejudice prevent his treating his patient; and whatever else, Professor Winston is a man of integrity. On learning of the case, I couldn't help but spontaneously disapprove. On reading his account, I don't necessarily change my mind, but I see that his reasons for offering



Professor Lord Winston: scarcely a commentator doesn't disapprove of his decision to give infertility treatment to a woman with HIV

treatment were honourable; those who condemn him as a publicity-hungry controversialist discredit only themselves.

Surely we should all accept that he is in a better position — from his clinical experience and his deeper knowledge of this particular case — to decide what he thinks is the right thing.

And yet, and yet... as much as a doctor believes that his duty lies in treating patients without prejudice, there are always choices. Unfortunately many of these choices recently have purported to be ethical ones when in reality the considerations

have primarily been financial. Many of those who have been rejected as unsuitable for IVF must be smarting at Lord Winston's decision. Perhaps it would have been better for them to have been told in the first place that it was simply lack of funds which prevented their having the treatment.

Doctors do, on the whole, feel better justifying their decisions morally: so often an unattractive amount of pontificating on and judging of potential patients does go on. But at other times, some sort of cold appraisal must be necessary. Lord Winston is right to say

that none of us can presume to know who will or will not make a good parent, but even he must acknowledge that prospective IVF patients must be subject to some sort of scrutiny. And things aren't so very clear-cut: to withhold fertility treatment from someone with a short life expectancy can be both cruel and justified at the same time.

But the hardest part of Lord Winston's job must be in turning people away. I don't see how you could do what he does and not want to treat everyone. Those of us who have never needed to seek the help

of someone like him, should be less ready to pronounce so brutally. A familiar theme of his detractors is the selfish insistence of every woman that she has a "right" to have a child, but I have yet to hear any infertile women speak of demanding her rights. Rather the talk, unbearably moving, is about passionate desire and yearning.

These are desperate women who are prepared to take desperate measures. We might disagree with them, we might wish to condemn them, but I really feel we should try, at the same time, to understand them.

Sporting strife, continued

I WILL defend the BBC and the licence fee that subsidises it until my last breath, but I could have wished to find my loyalty a little less stretched.

A week or so ago I railed against the idiotic prominence given to sport and at the insistence that the games boys play have a wide-reaching significance that we must all respect. Well, things never get any better. Now, it appears, the BBC has paid unprecedented sums just so that our every waking hour — and some of our sleeping ones — will be filled this summer with football matches, obscure Olympic events and other sporting occasions.

Soap operas, sitcoms, regular programmes must all be shunted aside to make way for this saturation coverage, but just in case you could even think of accusing the BBC of blokeishness, it has decided to demonstrate its good faith by promising that female presenters will feature prominently in these programmes. If anything were proof of puerility, this would be it.

The strangest thing is that the BBC and ITV appear to be in cahoots over this. Now, I know that what drives them into each other's arms is fear of cable sport, after all, is what lures people to satellite TV. But I think this move might well send the rest of us over.

A campaign lost in the haze

A REPORT — admittedly one financed by the tobacco industry — is just out that declares there to be no link between passive smoking and cancer. Of course, one would want to make sure such findings were bona fide, but presuming they are, surely it comes as something of a relief.

It would, after all, be good news. But not for the anti-smoking lobby, which is furious at the very suggestion that other people's tobacco smoke might not give innocent bystanders painful, terminal illnesses.

You see, lung cancer is good for the anti-smoking brigade in much the same way that an oil slick is good for environmentalists. Too much good intent can evidently warp the mind.

How we left a medium pale and frightened

I have tried to like *The X-Files*. For several weeks I have sat in front of the television at the appointed hour, willing myself to believe that there is something out there — but to no avail. Tosh, says a voice in my head. Rubbish. Green slime from the special-effects department comes cheap.

When I was younger I sat around the odd campfire too, listening, in the crepuscular evening, to tales of long-dead pioneers who could still be seen in these very woods. I didn't like to say that it might just be the wind in the pines, for fear of breaking the mood. I tried the harder stuff: M. R. James and *The Shining* too, but remained what I am still today: a sceptic, unwilling to accept notions of other worlds, parallel universes, spirits and sprites until I am offered the kind of evidence that fills test-tubes and makes pie-charts.

Which is why I don't know what to do with — how to categorise — my memories of Betty Shine.

Betty is a medium. The very word makes me, and legions of other sceptics, I am sure, roll the eyes in exasperation. I think myself far too hard-headed for that kind of nonsense. But I met Betty some years ago, and although you may argue that 16 is an impressionable age, or that a teenager's memory is a volatile, unreliable thing, it is hard to explain what I know happened that afternoon.

There were five of us: myself, my beloved friend, her sister, her cousin, and Betty.



What the clairvoyant Betty Shine saw one night had a dramatic effect upon her, remembers Erica Wagner

We had gone to look at a house that Sister wanted to buy. She had heard that Betty was able to sense the auras of houses, and wanted to know whether it was a good house, a sick house, or whether it needed spiritual cleansing.

Shethought it would be a good thing to have Betty along. Beloved Friend, Cousin and I thought this was somewhat cranky, but saw no harm in it, and off we went.

It was a beautiful afternoon. The house was deserted. Cousin picked the lock on the kitchen door to get us in. The last occupants, squatters, had left mannequins in the rooms, their peachy limbs at odd angles, their faces blankly affronted. I thought it was a creepy place; I would never have bought it. But Betty pronounced it peaceful and pleasant, and pointing out of the window at an expanse of lawn, indicated where a pond and a well had once been. Later we found the old plans of the house: she was right.

Closing the door as best we could, we retired to a nearby pub for rounds of crab sandwiches. When our plates were empty and London beckoned, Cousin asked Betty to read each of our palms.

Now, Betty — despite her Dickensian name — doesn't look like a palm-reader. She looks like the aunt you always wanted but never had: sensible and wise and kind. As such an aunt would, she demurred, saying her skill in palmistry wasn't a parlour-trick. She didn't look, to me, like she would be able to read palms: everyone knows that palmists wear veils and have crystal balls, and make vague predictions about the years to come in foreign accents that Henry Higgins himself could never have placed. But Cousin persevered, and Betty gave in.

We put our hands on the table in turn, palm up. First Sister, then Cousin, then me. I don't recall what she said about my future — the future is a faraway place when you

are 16, and I could hardly believe that what she said would matter. But when she spoke about my character and my past from what she saw — so it seemed — in the lines of my hand, she then seemed to be a true seer. How did she know what no one else around that table knew? About my parents, about my childhood, about the self that even at 16 one tries to keep hidden?

Even then I thought that it had to be some kind of trick, but how could such a trick have been accomplished? She was serene, and what she said was the truth. I stared at her, and looked hard at my hands, but there were no secrets there to my eyes. Betty writes about the Third Eye, and it doesn't mean much to me. But it is more than just a parlour-trick to be such a judge of character on an hour's acquaintance.

Finally it was the turn of Beloved Friend. Betty took Beloved Friend's hands in hers and turned them upwards: and then she went quite white. She really did; just like it happens in novels, all the blood drained from her rosy face and she looked drawn, and a little frightened, and very embarrassed indeed. She looked at Beloved Friend as if she had seen the Devil. "These are your friends and family," said Betty. "I can't say anything. Not here." She let go of Beloved Friend's hands and they hung for an instant over the table like they did not belong to her. Then she tucked them back into her lap.

We were all embarrassed. We didn't know where to look. The afternoon was spoilt. But



When Betty Shine spoke about my past and my character — about the self I tried to hide, she seemed a true seer

no one said anything more and we went our separate ways; Betty left us and Cousin, Sister, Beloved Friend and I drove back to London in silence. For the most part I forgot about that afternoon. There were more important things to think about.

But I recalled it, some months later, when I fell out with Beloved Friend. A very polite and English phrase, "fell out"; but it was more than that. Sometimes people drift apart: sometimes they argue; and sometimes the breaking of a friendship is a kind of seismic rift from which you never really recover, however

much you may heal. The whole landscape has changed and nothing is ever the same. It's a long story, and I don't claim to be blameless: but I remember Beloved Friend's hands hovering over the table, and Betty's pale face.

My Life as a Medium by Betty Shine is published by Thorsons (HarperCollins) on May 20, price £15.99

Turn to pages 24 and 25 for the Media and Marketing section

HOUSE INSURANCE

SAVE UP TO 50% OR MORE
e.g. LONDON & HOME COUNTIES
£100,000 Buildings Sum Insured
Premium Only £154.00

LOWER Premiums in most Other Areas
Tel: 0181 367 5151 NOW!
Or phone your nearest branch at the local rate on: 0345 123111

Hill House Hammond
Cutting The Cost Of Your Insurance

In 3 years it's never been overtaken.

For the 3rd year running, the Hijet — now available in petrol, or diesel, van or pick up — has left its rivals trailing. Once again its class-beating payload, cargo capacity, fuel economy and three year warranty have earned it the 'What Van?' 'Best Microvan' award.



For more information on the Hijet Range please send this coupon to Daihatsu Information Services, FREEPOST 506, Sandwich, Kent CT13 9BR. Or Freephone 0800 521 700.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
POSTCODE _____
TEL _____
CURRENT VEHICLE _____
MODEL _____
YEAR _____
THE DAIHATSU HIJET

NO-NONSENSE VEHICLES.

PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS EXCLUDES DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES AT £361.70 (EXC. VAT) AND SIX MONTHS' ROAD FUND LICENCE AT £77

Alan Coren



■ The origin of specious restoration is the descent of home into heritage

Unless you are the sort of crackpot fundamentalist who likes nothing better than to curl up in front of a roaring fire with the collected works of William Jennings Bryan, you must have been as distressed as I to learn that Down House was to be not merely restored to its original state, but preserved in that state for all eternity. Bought last week by English Heritage, the dear old pile (£705,000/178) is doomed, over the next 12 months, to be titivated to pristine nick, thereafter to remain utterly unchanged. Forever.

That this should befall the hallowed bolt-hole where Charles Darwin dashed off *The Origin of Species* strikes me as quite appalling. Could there be a more flagrant insult to his memory, or a more cavalier rejection of all he was and did, than for a quango ex machina to stick its oar in with the express object of thwarting the evolutionary process which governs every British species of the genus *Residentialia domestica*? I looked at the snapshot accompanying the press coverage, and I tell you, Down House wobbled in my brimming tears. For it would never, now, develop fine marble cladding, never sprout a tasteful storm porch in elegant teal-veneered chipboard, graced on either side by handsome simulated-brass carriage lamps, never wake one morning to find a sumptuous granny-flat evolving through its roof, or a magnificent pre-cast aluminium conservatory burgeoning on its left flank to complement the chic jacuzzi/sauna annex new-generated on its right. A triple-glazed mock-mullioned carport blessed with remote-controlled up-and-over doors? Forget it! A bespoke al fresco twin-level gas-fired barbecue pit surrounded by semi-circular neo-Hippiewhite all-weather seating for ten? Fat chance! A thatched Portaplayroom extension benefiting from indoor sandpit and paddling pool? Out of the question! For Down House is no longer part of The Descent of Home.

Look again at the snapshot and mark those sad old french windows, now artificially excluded forever from that process of natural selection — be it from a gorgeous full-colour brochure or simply thanks to the random chance of qualified representatives just happening to be in the neighbourhood — which would see them evolve into sleek anodised patio doors designed to slide open at the merest touch; thereby, of course, affording instant access not, as now, to some many wormcast lawn, but to elegantly tarmacadamed off-street parking, girt with gleaming poles supporting halogen floodlights and feelgood CCTV to empower the householder to gaze out lovingly and confidently at his cherished 7-series BMW and 4WD Daihatsu, instead of at a load of tatty shrubs and bedders.

Tragic! It gets worse. Remember, friends, Down House is no ordinary residence, it is a monument, a shrine, an icon, a cultural landmark, and, being open to the public, it is thus bound to attract only visitors who would not touch it with a bargepole unless they were offered something more than the opportunity to stare at a spotty desk where an old bloke sat thinking about monkeys. Because it will not have escaped you that all such public attractions have also evolved, to the point where the survival of the fittest depends entirely upon value added. But English Heritage is determined to have none of this, either: not only is there to be no water-chute, no go-kart track, no Ferris-wheel, no karaoke bar, there has not even been any move to grasp what you and I would see as a golden opportunity for a daily chimpanzee tea-party, with the guests dressed up in frock-coats, golden pince-nez, and stove-pipe hats, both to make some sort of thematic point — sponsored, no doubt, by Brooke Bond — and to encourage the sale of fluffy animals, or even fluffy biologists, at the Common Ancestor Gift Shoppe. Not that there will be a gift shop, of course, any more than there will be a jumbo takeaway facility offering juicy quarter-pound Beagleburgers, Kentucky fried dodo, and thick breadfruit shakes.

Put an ear to the ground: do you hear Charles Darwin spinning in his grave? His was a life spent proving that nothing stands still. Not even England's heritage.



Peter Brooke after David's "Death of Marat"

Accountable to nobody

The privatisation of the public utilities was a con — as Clare Spottiswoode's devastating five-year gas plan proves

Clare Spottiswoode is the Joan of Arc of privatisation. With a flaming gasolier in her hand and a mystic Ofgas rampant on her shield, she charges into the deepest sleaze, fat cats, slids, bulls and bears flee snarling into the forest. St Clare knows no fear. This week she gave every family in Britain an extra pound a week. She has justice, the BBC and the tabloids on her side. She is that mercenary of modern bureaucracy, the valiant utility regulator.

Anyone who believed Margaret Thatcher when she said she was privatising British Gas was a fool. She was raising cash while bringing the gas industry under more rigorous Whitehall control than ever before. Sure, she was asking the industries to give the public some profits as shareholders, rather than as consumers or taxpayers. But the only substantive change she made was in the role and status of the boss of the gas board.

That boss is not some titular chairman, it is Clare Spottiswoode. She is also non-parliamentary minister for gas. By comparison, the formal chairman, Richard Giordano, is a cipher. This week, Ms Spottiswoode revealed her devastating five-year plan for the distribution subsidiary of British Gas, known as Transco. The plan is more detailed than anything imposed on the industry in "the bad old days" by Whitehall. Consider: the board's audited valuation of its own assets is halved; the permitted rate of return on these assets is cut; the plan cuts the depreciation allowed, cuts operating costs by 4 per cent and cuts the allowance for capital spending. Still beavering away, Ms Spottiswoode tells Transco that she is slashing the prices it can charge the gas companies next year by a quarter. She is suppressing rises for the rest of the plan's period to five points less than the retail prices index.

To the board of British Gas, this is the commercial equivalent of a nuclear wipe-out. Ms Spottiswoode has torn up their corporate plan and written her own. She has in effect branded the British Gas board as liars and their shareholders as gullible fools. She claims that they have been "too generous" to shareholders. She has duly wiped £1 billion, or 10 per cent, off the firm's share price. She has rejected the view of the Monopolies Commission that existing gas pipelines should be fully depreciated on demerger. In cut-

ting Transco's revenue by a fifth, she has induced its management to threaten 10,000 job losses, or half its workforce. Ms Spottiswoode is not so much playing Joan of Arc as playing God.

Except that she is not playing God. She is playing that subtle mix of politics and control beloved of the British Civil Service. That culture was supposedly swept away by privatisation. The hidden assumption of yesterday's plan is simple: Transco, though ostensibly a private company, must have its balance sheet and its profits and loss account determined by a government official.

The late Nicholas Ridley's celebrated boast has proved true: "Utilities which we intend to privatise are more easily controlled when they are in the private sector."

Ridley meant Treasury control. What has happened is regulator control. The curiosity of Ms Spottiswoode's position is that she is beyond control. She need not conform to any central plan. She can be as subjective as she likes. For instance, the Government wants her to surcharge gas profits to support a public trust set up to promote energy conservation. This project, pledged at the Rio summit, is beloved of ministers. Ms Spottiswoode dislikes it and refuses to levy the surcharge. I am not aware of her democratic mandate for this. But she need not care. She has one of Britain's biggest companies by the short hairs. The board is her subcontractor, the agency of her whim.

When Ms Spottiswoode took over from Sir James McKinnon, the gas industry regarded it as a "change of government without an election". Her views were diametrically opposed to his. She was also able to take advantage of politics. Yesterday's announcement seems to have been in part a response to the unpopularity of the British Gas board members. Like Shirley Porter in Westminster, they have given privatisation a bad name and their unpopularity

has cost them the right to fair treatment. As with Dame Shirley, so with British Gas, an unaccountable public official can damn the reputation of public figures without a court hearing or witnesses summoned and cross-examined. In all she has said about British Gas, Ms Spottiswoode may be in the right. But how can we tell?

To search for a path of democratic accountability through all this is to sink into a bog in a thicket in a fog. The company can appeal against Ofgas to the Monopolies Commission (the bog). The commission's findings then go to the Trade and Industry Secretary, who considers them (the thicket). He then presents to Parliament (the fog). The regulator herself is described by Whitehall as a "non-ministerial department". This phrase defies authority and constitutional status. In a Charter 88 lecture a year ago, Ms Spottiswoode confessed that it amounted to "in truth very little". She supplies a report each year to Parliament — but, she added, it is not worth the paper it is written on and goes virtually unread. The lady is splendidly frank. But then she can afford to be. She faces no election and can court public beatification at the slash of a price and the drop of a press release.

What is clear is that for Treasury control of energy policy has been substituted, not the stern helmsman of the market, but a discordant choir of bureaucrats. Each regulator is singing his own tune. These people have huge power over vast industries, yet have no duty to be consistent or to plan coherently. When the media complained that they had been too generous to their respective industries, the electricity, rail and gas regulators simply took up previous decisions and made tougher ones. No industry can plan on this basis.

Labour is bound to change this. It has no hang-ups about "arm's length". It believes in price control and planning. In power, it would regulate the regulators, making them conform to an energy plan or at least a collegiate pricing theory. A Labour Cabinet wouldn't need to renationalise. Share certificates can be left where they are, rendered worthless by dividend control. The power for ministers to make directions is enshrined in most of the regulators' statutes. As for Joan of Arc, if a minister comes and shoots her horse from under her, she can always turn democratic and find a new seat in Parliament.

We are back with the old story. You cannot paint spots on a tiger and call it a leopard. The privatisation of the public utilities was a con. It raised large amounts of money for the Treasury, to be returned in tax cuts. It led to an initial surge in investment where, as in water and telecommunications, the regulator was lenient. In some cases, it led to a surge in shareholder dividends and in all cases to a surge in directors' pay. None of this was going to last — except the directors' pay. Governments would want to see energy prices fall more than they wanted to see dividends rise. Politics would out.

The Government has thus achieved the near-impossible. It has found an even more incoherent form of nationalisation than it inherited. In the past year, the electricity and the rail regulators have turned on their industries with a vengeance, backed by public opinion. Professor Stephen Littlechild savaged the electricity generating industry by rewriting his five-year pricing plan for electricity distribution, claiming to have been misled. Ms Spottiswoode has done the same for gas. There is presumably nothing to stop them tearing up plans every year as the mood takes them.

The regulator has become minister and board chairman rolled into one. But she is neither accountable to a Cabinet department under ministerial responsibility, nor accountable to a board and shareholders. She is another freelance public servant, attended at vast expense by City consultants (this time Coopers & Lybrand). As for the industry boards, their contract with the public is tacit but specific. They can walk off with as much of the loot as they like, so long as they shut up and do what the regulator says in response to political and media pressure. That is the truth of utility privatisation.

Labour is bound to change this. It has no hang-ups about "arm's length". It believes in price control and planning. In power, it would regulate the regulators, making them conform to an energy plan or at least a collegiate pricing theory. A Labour Cabinet wouldn't need to renationalise. Share certificates can be left where they are, rendered worthless by dividend control. The power for ministers to make directions is enshrined in most of the regulators' statutes. As for Joan of Arc, if a minister comes and shoots her horse from under her, she can always turn democratic and find a new seat in Parliament.

Labour is bound to change this. It has no hang-ups about "arm's length". It believes in price control and planning. In power, it would regulate the regulators, making them conform to an energy plan or at least a collegiate pricing theory. A Labour Cabinet wouldn't need to renationalise. Share certificates can be left where they are, rendered worthless by dividend control. The power for ministers to make directions is enshrined in most of the regulators' statutes. As for Joan of Arc, if a minister comes and shoots her horse from under her, she can always turn democratic and find a new seat in Parliament.

Labour must make them work

Gordon Brown on a new deal for the lost generation

Tough choices are essential if Labour is to solve one of the hardest social and economic problems of all: the crisis in education and employment faced by Britain's young people.

Six hundred thousand young people are out of work. A third of teenagers leave school without basic qualifications. A smaller proportion of 16 and 17-year-olds are in full-time education than any OECD country save Turkey. And 60 per cent of our crime is committed by people under 25. So we face nothing less than the waste of a generation — not just of the gaunt, defeated young people begging in the streets, but less visibly, though no less wastefully, the hundreds of thousands of young people still living at home who have never had the chance to work and build their own lives — young people feeling they are going nowhere.

The vision of a one-nation society and a stakeholding Britain can only be made meaningful for these excluded young people if we face up to the linked problems of education and employment. And we cannot prevent the vicious cycle of low skills, unemployment and poverty repeating itself from one generation to another unless we act now. If we do not, we face growing social division.

Today, David Blunkett, Jack Straw, Chris Smith and I will show that we can solve this problem. But the solution will require tough choices about our public spending priorities. For all of us will suffer if we fail to act and continue to pay the costs of failure: an estimated ten billion pounds in the cost of crime and unemployment.

Creating opportunities in education and work for millions of young people is Labour's goal. It will be the priority for Labour's first Budget in government, a Budget for hope.

Our objectives are clear. Every young person should have a skill and a qualification. Everyone under 25 and not in full-time education should have work and training. This is why we have launched Labour's new deal for the under-25s.

First, jobs. In our inner cities, 25 per cent of young men are out of work. That is why, in order to start tackling problems of youth and long-term unemployment, Labour has announced a windfall levy on the excess profits of our utilities, so that every young person who has been out of work for more than six months will have job and training opportunities. The unfair profits of the utilities should be put to work to offer a fair deal to the unemployed. But our emphasis on rights-for-responsibilities will ensure that the money will be properly spent. We will provide a choice of four options for young unemployed people, but staying at home on full benefit will not be one of them.

Second, we need to provide training for young people in work. Qualifications increasingly determine employment prospects and earnings. Yet only 64 per cent have a skill to NVQ level 2. The Government's aim is 85 per cent. Our aim will be to put 100 per cent of young people on the road to a qualification.

This is why David Blunkett will today announce the end of Youth Training, and its replacement by Target 2000. Currently, less than half of Youth Training participants finish their courses. This is not the best way to spend £500 million, and Labour will do better. We will also ensure that every young person in work receives training. This is the difference between Labour's statutory approach to training at work and the Tories' voluntary approach.

Third, Labour will make the battle against crime a central element of a new deal for the under-25s. Jack Straw will today suggest a new arm of Labour's Environmental Task Force, so that we can engage the energies of young people in improving their neighbourhoods.

Most importantly, we cannot solve this crisis if so many young people continue to waste their school years and leave at 16 without qualifications. Britain has one of the lowest staying-on rates in higher education of all the major industrial countries.

Our public spending review for the post-16s is designed to use existing resources better so we can increase the staying-on rate at school and college. We will review all post-16 spending: grants, fees, loans, educational maintenance allowance, discretionary grants and child benefit. As I said two weeks ago, one option is to upgrade child benefit to national educational allowances for those who need them.

Labour's plan is nothing less than a radical redistribution of public expenditure in favour of jobs and education. We will use the proceeds of the utilities windfall levy, a reallocation of the £500 million spend on Youth Training to Target 2000 and the use of £150 million of existing Training and Enterprise Council funds, which will be redirected to a million individual learning accounts, worth £150 each.

Our new campaign gives the lie to Tory critics who say that Labour is removing benefits for youngsters after 16 without announcing anything in their place. But it also shows that Labour is willing to make the choices necessary to tackle the crisis of a lost generation.

The author is the Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Team spirit

MANCHESTER UNITED Football Club's inexorable good fortune continues. A feature film is to be made about the team of the 1950s, which included the Busby Babes. The makers of *Four Weddings and a Funeral* own the script and have announced in Cannes that they are hoping to sign Sean Connery to play the late Sir Matt Busby, the club's Scottish former manager.

The film will tell the story of the group of dazzlingly talented young

players whose extraordinary domestic success was cut short when their plane crashed in Munich in 1958, with the loss of many of the stars. Bobby Charlton was one of the few to survive.

Apart from signing the famously hard-nosed Connery, two other problems remain for the filmmakers. Trying to find a stadium which has the grim industrial feel of Old Trafford as it was 40 years ago has taken location scouts around Eastern Europe. Even the

grimmer lower division grounds in this country, it seems, have lost the grit of that era.

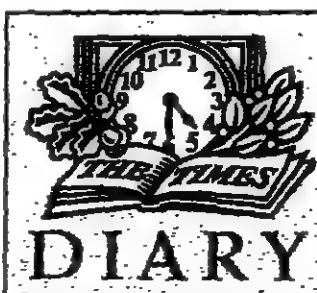
Then actors have to be found who can play football to a decent standard. Despite his cameo appearance in a French film last year, United's current idol, Eric Cantona, has been ruled out.

Swotting up

THE Princess Royal is repaying favours on her children's behalf. She has showered Peter and Zara's school governors with invitations to a soiree at Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh.

The headmaster of Gordonstoun, Mark Pyper, has received his call-up after his sterling encouragement of Peter Phillips on the rugby field. Five Gordonstoun governors have also been invited for the night, along with the headmaster of Port Regis School in Sharnbury where Peter and Zara were pupils. All have been invited to stop over at Holyrood during the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland next week.

● Trevor McDonald made a reluctant departure from a funny lunch yesterday to launch the latest of the Dom Pérignon vintage from Moët & Chandon. "Any more of this," he burred, swigging the dregs of a rare glass of



"59," and I'll have problems presenting the news this evening. I hope there aren't any difficult Bosnian names."

Whip hand

CONFUSION amongst Labour's whips. On Friday, they held up a Bill giving rights of British residency to 43 Hong Kong war widows. John Major had promised the Bill to the widows, and Labour had agreed to let it sail through Parliament on the nod. No one, however, had told Nick Brown, Labour's deputy chief whip.

As the Bill was read out, Brown — who was running the Labour show at the time — cried out "No". Now the Bill must go through the whole boring procedure of a standing committee. "I apologised within half an hour," said Donald

Dewar, Labour's chief whip. "It was a mistake for which I take entire responsibility, but we have now put it right."

Brown, however, is unrepentant. "No one told me about an agreement between the front benches," he said yesterday. "Anyway, it is not the job of the Opposition to nod through the Prime Minister's promises."

Spook TV

MY COLLEAGUE Matthew Parris recently compared Blair's new Labour clan to the ghoulish Addams Family. Now Blair is beginning to realise that he may have been on to something.

Yesterday the Labour leader spoke of his recent trip to America, where he discovered that Prime Minister's Question Time enjoys a big cult following on cable TV. "I bumped into somebody who watched PMQs avidly, and he told me it was one of his two favourite TV shows," said Gomez Blair. "I asked him what the other one was and he said *The Addams Family*."

Ne'er a drop

YORKSHIRE WATERS bottomless well of embarrassing bungles shows no sign of running dry. There has been uproar in Grims-



"Next time he goes to France, Major is in for frog's legs"

by, which has been plastered with posters advertising the current hosepipe ban imposed by the water authority.

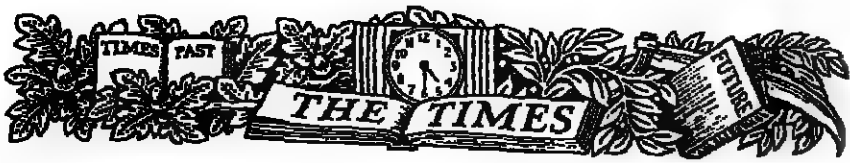
Unfortunately, Grimsby is not served by Yorkshire Water, but Anglian Water, and does not have a hosepipe ban. "We have removed them and apologised to Anglian Water," dribbles a Yorkshire Water spokeswoman. "We are still looking into what might have happened. But our priority was to remove them before any further confusion was caused."

P.H.S



Sir Matt Busby and his body-double Sean Connery

MAY 15 1996
Our
make
work
Brown on
a! for the
eration



FERTILE WITH ERROR

Voice of humanity against the voice of vested interests

No one could fail to feel sympathy for a childless couple, desperate to have their own baby. There are undoubtedly couples who, knowing that one or other partner is a carrier for a fatal disease or severe disability, decide to take the gamble of pregnancy in the hope that they will have a normal child. Society leaves the decision to them, and underwrites the medical and other costs, which can be considerable, of caring for the child should it prove to have inherited the genetic defect.

From there, it may seem a short step to justify the use of medical science to induce pregnancy in an infertile woman who has a disease which is almost always fatal, and also highly communicable to her child, on the ground that even if external intervention is involved, the decision whether to proceed should still ultimately be up to the parents and not to society. That is the essence of Professor Lord Winston's defence of his decision to give in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) treatment to Sheila, an HIV-positive patient, and to offer it to other HIV-positive women.

It is, on the contrary, a gigantic step—and a step too far. The distinction is one of access before, rather than after the fact, between mitigating the ills inflicted by nature and scientifically creating a problem. It is one thing for a doctor to help a patient in trouble by making the best of a bad job; if blood tests reveal that an already pregnant woman is HIV-positive, for example, she will be told and given the option of abortion, but put under no pressure to do so. But it is quite another matter for a doctor deliberately to create the possibility of bringing into the world an HIV-positive child, and one whose mother is likely to die in his infancy.

Most IVF units decline to treat parents liable to transmit the most severely disabling or fatal diseases to their baby. In the interest of the child, Professor Winston's unit screens IVF eggs for cancer and other diseases such as cystic fibrosis, to reduce or eliminate these known risks from assisted preg-

nancies. Screening for HIV is not possible. Professor Winston puts the risk of transmission to the baby at a minimum of 7 per cent; the Western average for non-IVF births to HIV-positive mothers is 15-20 per cent.

A coefficient of forces may be at work here, as medical interest in an experiment which could tell scientists more about Aids meets the pseudo-ethics of political correctness. It is unlikely to produce a public good. "Yes, the child might die of Aids," Professor Winston wrote yesterday on the page opposite. To die of Aids is so unpleasant that the thought of assisting the creation of a child at risk of being born under such a death sentence ought surely to be unconscionable. It might die after its mother, too. Professor Winston insists that his patients must be otherwise healthy and have carried HIV for eight or more years without contracting Aids. A patient like Sheila might, as he hopes, live several years before succumbing to Aids; but she might not. The chances of her escaping it entirely remain so small as to be statistically insignificant.

When HIV was first identified and its scale known, campaigners rightly insisted on "equal treatment" for Aids victims. The pendulum has now swung too far; sensible treatment of HIV-sufferers is bedevilled by positive discrimination. Professor Winston cites the support of his local ethics committee; but why should IVF treatment be ethical for HIV sufferers yet frowned upon for those with other diseases, and indeed for totally fit women in their forties? This treatment was not on the NHS; but that should not license irrationality; and the real costs to society of caring for an HIV-positive child also have to be factored in. Professor Winston expresses astonishment at the "seemingly prejudiced" reaction of his team when he put the question to them. They argued not that this treatment was too costly, but that it was too grave a gamble with the life of a child. There was not the voice of prejudice, but of common humanity.

SORRY IS THE HARDEST WORD

But 'it hurt' has been hard for the Tories too

Yes, it hurt. But will it work? After some agonising, the Tories have taken the decision to come clean(ish) with the voters. Posters will go up all over Britain in the next few weeks admitting that the recession and subsequent tax rises caused people to suffer; but claiming that the medicine led to recovery. This campaign has been long in the conception. It may not achieve the necessary recovery in popularity. But it is the best chance that the Conservatives have.

When Tory politicians claim to voters that the economic uplands are sunlit, people cannot disguise their contempt. Laughter is the most positive emotion that greets such a message. What voters say they want is for the governing party first to acknowledge the pain of the early 1990s, the high mortgage rates and the broken tax promises. Until that admission has been made, ministers' words invite little more than derision.

If anything will win the Tories the next election, it will be Britain's economic performance. But the correlation between disposable income and voting intentions is not as automatic as Michael Heseltine appears to think. Before voters will be willing to switch their loyalty back to the Conservative Party, they have both to recognise the economic recovery and to give the Government credit for it. This poster campaign is designed to provide the wiring that will reconnect economic optimism with support for the Conservatives.

These posters are planned as the first in a three-stage campaign. After the acknowledgement of pain we can expect more good economic news; then the traditional "don't let Labour ruin it" message. Several million pounds will be spent over the summer, and

more will be needed for the phoney war that will follow. The hope of Central Office is that success will feed on itself. As the opinion polls improve, potential benefactors may be sent at least the chance of victory. Then it will be easier to persuade them that their money is not being poured down the drain.

In the old days, getting such a message across was both cheaper and more effective. Pliant sections of the press could be relied upon to disseminate the Tory view, lending editorial respectability to what could otherwise be dismissed as partisan claims. Now even loyalist newspapers are less loyal. Ministers available for TV performance are either jaded or nonentities or both. Advertising, therefore, may be the only means of touching hearts and minds.

But will it work? "Never apologise, never explain" has been the guiding principle of politicians down the ages. It also infuriates most people. In this campaign, the Conservatives have gone against the latter axiom; they have not quite addressed the former. "Yes, it hurt" is not quite the same as saying sorry.

Ministers are still claiming that the high interest rates and tax rises were necessary merely because of the world recession. In fact, they were caused by bad economic management, profligate spending and a determination to remain in the ERM long after it was clear that such a policy was bad for Britain.

Sophisticated voters will spot this omission. They may not be mollified even now. But this campaign is still a sensible initiative. It will not guarantee that the Tories win the election. But without it, they would not have had a hope.

LATIN INTO ENGLISH

Lighter thoughts from our darkest hour

Why did the Romans invade Britain? Once here, why did they not finish the job? Anyone seeking answers to questions which are still pertinent to our continental relationships should thank the Weston Foundation for its £1.75 million gift to the British Museum yesterday. A core part of our heritage will at last have a brighter home.

There is much scholarly argument about why Julius Caesar came to Britain in 55 BC. Most probably he came because he needed new victories to keep himself in power in Rome. Only something more impressive than mere Gallic War would stop his enemies taking away his legions and putting a dagger in his back 11 years earlier than they did.

His propagandists, however, had to claim that economic arguments justified the two brief invasions and a costly Channel fleet, the like of which would not be seen again for 20 centuries. This first attempt to put Britain under European sway was backed by tales of an island stuffed with precious metals: in fact, there were hunting-dogs, slaves and wood. But that did not matter to Caesar, who, like later integrationists, preferred to cloak political aims in economic guise.

Even this device was not a big success. While his first sortie across the Channel won triumphant excitement at Rome, the second was seen for the waste that it truly was. When he left, the islands had not been half conquered. Those "friendly" Britons left

behind were patently self-interested, unrepresentative and unreliable. Caesar had to recoup his popularity with bread and circuses paid for by serious loot from Gaul.

It was 100 years before the Romans returned. The focus of the British Museum collection is on the following centuries, during which Britons found their first heroine, Boadicea, their first famous wall, Hadrian's, and their first official North-South divide: Septimius Severus, putting politics before geography, called the bit of England close to the continent "superior" and the northern zones "inferior".

Septimius had his own special grudge against Britain because its then military boss, Clodius Albinus, had challenged him unsuccessfully for Europe's top job. Septimius saw these islands as Jacques Santer might perhaps see the home of his own challenger for the presidency of the European Commission. Sir Leon Brittan. The subsequent division of Britain was the first occasion on which the great continentals saw us as a genuine source of threat.

But still there was no real profit for the Roman state. Tax as they might, the cost of these islands was greater than the reward. So, once the political initiative collapsed, there was nothing to keep the invaders here. Like the last Britons of the Raj in years to come, they finally left for home, complaining about how standards at Rome had fallen while they were away.

Failure of private anti-stalking Bill

From Mr A. T. Lawson-Crutenden

Sir, As the advisor to Mrs Janet Anderson, MP, on the legal drafting of her anti-stalking Bill, I believe that the Government's failure to support this Bill (report, May 11) raises a number of constitutional issues.

Parliament (which is electorally accountable) enacts the law, and the courts (which are not) apply Parliament's law to each case. The purpose of law is the preservation of the Queen's peace. Enforcement is left to the police, who are independent of the Government. These are the traditional constitutional "checks and balances".

The need for the Bill is obvious. The police are not effectively prosecuting stalkers under the existing law. The courts are unable to convict them. Stalkers undoubtedly harass and molest their victims. Anarchy exists in this area.

The Government objected that the offence of stalking was too widely drafted. Consequently there is no law and the courts have no power to deal with this area of behaviour. In effect, the Government is not prepared to trust its courts to interpret broad legislation in a proper and judicial manner.

Consequently, the challenge must lie with the courts to widen the existing law as quickly and as effectively as possible. We have already seen a conviction for "psychological grievous bodily harm" (report, March 5) which did not involve assault by its ordinary definition. Other convictions for wider offences must surely follow if the courts are to address the vacuum left by the Government.

Yours etc,
TIMOTHY LAWSON-CRUTENDEN
(Solicitor Advocate),
Lawson-Crutenden & Co.,
17 Red Lion Square, W.C1.
May 13.

From Mrs Evonne von Heussen

Sir, Using the proposals of the National Anti-Stalking and Harassment Campaign and Support Association (Nash) as a blueprint, the Home Office began developing anti-stalking legislation two years ago. Clearly, the Government's reaction to Janet Anderson's Bill is far from the point-scoring she has claimed it to be. Of the positive responses from the 640 MPs whom we approached for support, 70 per cent were Conservative, 17 per cent were Labour and 13 per cent came from other parties.

Without consultation with us, Mrs Anderson used our proposals yet provided an ineffective and unenforceable Bill. From the outset Nash has tried to keep the issue of stalking non-partisan by seeking assistance and support from all quarters. We feel it is unfortunate that the issue has now become a political football.

Yours faithfully,
EVOONNE VON HEUSSEN, Director,
National Anti-Stalking and Harassment Campaign and Support Association,
Place Community Venture,
Bath Place, Leamington Spa,
Warwickshire.
May 12.

Thatcher and Church

From Dr David J. Girling

Sir, I should like to add a personal note to Dr Alan Webster's letter (May 11). Shortly after the end of the Falkland War I was in Buenos Aires and saw in practice as a member of the Church of England when visiting a predominantly Roman Catholic country. I attended Mass, going into the vestry beforehand to ensure that the priest was happy to give me Communion. He spoke no English or French and I no Spanish. Nevertheless, with signs and minimal English from the altar boy, I made myself understood, asking that we pray for reconciliation between our two countries.

I don't know what he said during the service, but I was warmly greeted by the large congregation, and the following Sunday was invited to take up the bread in the offertory procession.

As is now well known, the Archbishop of Canterbury's sermon and the prayers read in the July 1982 service in Spanish and used in Argentine churches. That Buenos Aires congregation were clearly expressing their gratitude to the English churches for the attitude they had taken and their own commitment to a gospel of reconciliation. This is surely as it should be.

Yours sincerely,
D. J. GIRLING,
11 Bateman Mews, Cambridge.
May 13.

Dear Database...

From His Honour J. R. Main, QC

Sir, Dr Margaret Nanson (letter, May 11) has my sympathy. I find that I am known to at least one database as "Judge J M Qc".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MAIN,
4 Queen Anne Drive,
Claygate, Surrey.
May 11.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Beatification of Florentine 'heretic'

From Mr D. S. Olby

Sir, As Dominican prior of San Marco in Florence, Savonarola (report and leading article, May 6) was an undoubtedly authoritarian leader. But with the expulsion of the Medici in 1494 the government set up with the prior's backing was the most widely representative Florence had ever had. Savonarola disapproved of conspicuous consumption, as the money could have benefited the poor. He also called for the burning of lascivious books and paintings (he believed that art should be Christian, not pagan) and said that it was "contemptuous to God" to portray the Virgin and saints using recognisable local, often immoral, people as models.

There is no suggestion, however, that he disapproved of the Fra Angelico paintings at San Marco — indeed, these were integrated into the communal ritual life of the Dominicans there — and one wonders what were the objects destroyed which you refer to as "some of the city's finest art treasures and ornaments".

Savonarola's treatise, *The Triumph of the Cross*, is a clear statement of orthodox Catholic doctrine. He was excommunicated, but that was because he dared to speak out against the immoral lifestyle, the simony and nepotism of Alexander VI: he refused to obey the Pope and was disciplined for it.

You say that it would be "at best eccentric" to beatify Savonarola because he is believed to have been an "enemy of the arts". This is a partial view of his life and ideals. In any case, how many of those beatified have been friends of the arts? And when did this qualify someone to be thus honoured by the Church?

My views are largely based on the two-volume biography of Savonarola by Pasquale Villari, published in English in 1889 and dedicated, astonishingly, to Gladstone.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID S. OLBY,
The Hermitage, Church Hill,
Slindon, Nr Arundel, West Sussex.
May 8.

From Canon Donald Nicholson

Sir, I cannot but feel that the Dominicans are ill-advised to promote the be-

atification of Savonarola. However, my caution may be subjectively inspired.

When I was a young curate over 60 years ago my then vicar was white-bearded and therefore did not have to shave daily and did not need a looking-glass over his washbasin. What he had instead was the famous profile of Savonarola which doubtless, morning by morning, inspired his attitude towards the day. Whereupon he came down to breakfast prepared to burn any number of vanities, preferably mine.

It may be of course that something of his attitudes rubbed off on to his little victim because many years later in my London parish I seemed to have acquired in the minds of the irreverent an ominous sobriquet: the Savonarola of Sloane Square.

Nothing could be less improbable than the beatification of the Dominican friar. The cause could only evoke the splendid couplet which ends Act 4 of Max Beerbaum's famous spoof, *Savonarola — A Tragedy*. Then shall you see a cinder, not a man,
Beneath the lightning of the Vatican
(flourish, alarms and excursions, flashes of Vatican lightning, roll of drums, etc.)
There is then led in a large milk-white horse which the Pope mounts as the curtain falls.

Sincerely,
DONALD NICHOLSON,
St Margaret's Convent,
17 Spital, Aberdeen.
May 10.

From Father John Buckley

Sir, Hagiography is littered with successful rank outsiders. It is a tenet of the Roman Catholic Church that, given metanoia and the presence of the Risen Christ, anybody can become a saint. Just think of it, Mary Magdalene was a prostitute, Paul of Tarsus an exterminator of Christians and of course Augustine of Hippo a fornicating miscreant. Welcome aboard, Saint Savonarola.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BUCKLEY,
The Presbytery,
Martin Street,
Bishop's Waltham,
Southampton, Hampshire.
May 6.

were visited by the Holy Spirit, but the clergy present went out of their way to ensure that no one in the room was left feeling disturbed or uncomfortable, and there were certainly no animal noises to be heard.

An Alpha course, in my view, is an excellent form of teaching for those with doubts or uncertainties, and a marvellous way of bridging the gap between the very dull type of Christianity that used to be ladled out at most public schools and other similar institutions and worship that is available for practising Christians today.

Yours sincerely,
HELEN WALKER,
7 Bloomfield Park,
Bath, Avon.
May 11.

A little night music

From Ms Anna Gregory

Sir, Brenda Maddox (Media, May 8) perpetuates a tired old tune about Classic FM. Our music policy is in fact designed to offer listeners of both classical music and other genres a wide variety of repertoire in terms of composition, period, style and form. The rotation of music has very set guidelines which means the same piece cannot be broadcast again for a minimum of three days, and even then at a different time.

Contrary to Ms Maddox's claim, in 168 hours of broadcasting over the past week, *Gaite parisienne* and Greg's Piano Concerto (first movement) were played once, and *Tales from the Vienna Woods* not at all.

Yours faithfully,
ANNA GREGORY,
Head of Music, Classic FM,
Academic House,
24-28 Oval Road, NW1.
May 8.

From the Controller, Radio 3
Sir, Brenda Maddox's interesting article about Radio 3 draws exactly the wrong conclusion from the Sony gold

In a spin

From Mr Alan D. Cox

Sir, As Mr Peter Coster (letter, May 6) can easily verify, the fault almost certainly is his, not his phone's coiled lead.

Most right-handed people tend to pick up the phone with their right hand and then pass it to their left hand and hold it to their left ear. At the end of the conversation they then pass it back to their right hand to replace it. In so doing they impart a twist to the lead which eventually builds up into Mr Coster's "twisted tangle".

The simplest solution is so to position the apparatus that it is much more convenient to use the left rather than the right hand for the initial pick-up.

Yours etc,
ALAN D. COX,
Pen-y-Maes,
Ostry Hill, St Clears, Carmarthen
May 8.

Congenial homes for London birds

From the President of the London Natural History Society

Sir, It is indeed ironic that Derwent May could record 62 species in a day's bird-watching in the London area whilst Simon Barnes found a mere 13 on Suffolk farmland ("A tale of two twitches", Weekend, May 11). Primarily, of course, this illustrates how poor much of the countryside has become for wildlife; however, it also reveals that the London area still provides a range of habitats for a large number of birds.

The most recently published *London Bird Report* recorded 228 species in 1994. This naturally includes some rare vagrants (that manna for twitchers) but also a great number of species who find congenial homes in London, either for the winter (the many waterfowl on lakes and reservoirs, for instance) or for breeding (including hawks, a nationally scarce migratory falcon, and little ringed plovers, with London being probably the best place in the country to see them).

However, it should be pointed out that the London area is a good place for much other wildlife. A recent survey found 287 species of naturally occurring plants in Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens. The tube-web spider was rediscovered on Hampstead Heath in 1994, after an absence of a century. The rare migratory and winter visitor, Nathusius's pipitrelle bat was recently found in the City. A formerly rare jewel beetle associated with old woodland has recently become widespread.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN BOWLT,
7 Croft Gardens,
Ruislip, Middlesex.
May 12.

From Mr Brian Slyfield

Sir, Derwent May and Simon Barnes are to be congratulated on identifying so many birds in two contrasting areas.

As it happens, next Saturday, May 18 sees the biggest bird race outside the US, the Birdwatch UK Bird Race. Teams of four will challenge for a range of county and regional prizes for the highest number of different species recorded in 24 hours in a nominated county. Sponsorship raised is directed towards the RSPB's and BirdLife International's appeal for the conservation of reedbeds.

Last year's record was no less than 157 species. The race is a great day out, and one more step in the restoration of essential wildlife habitats. It's not too late to join in.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN SLYFIELD
(Bird Race Organiser),
Birdwatch,
Bow House, 153-159 Bow Road, E3.
May 13.

Olympic flames

From Mr Phil Simpson

Sir, I was interested by your report (May 9) on the flame of Olympic torches going out — firstly because of the officials in high positions who were involved in relighting it, and secondly because in 1948 I helped to carry the torch through part of west Kent. It went out twice in the two miles I held it, and it certainly also went out when being carried by my club colleagues. I don't know what fuels the present torches, but in 1948 a modified form of the tannins' cooking cylinder was used and was expected to last about 45 minutes. Mine lasted much less.

Following our run each carrier kept the torch he carried and no official or diplomat oversaw the changes; but of course in those days the Olympics weren't big business.

I wonder who swiped my torch from the bar of my local where it was on show.

Yours,
PHIL SIMPSON,
2 Greenbank,
Connor Downs, Hayle, Cornwall.
May 11.

From Mr John Sherlock

Sir, The poor biker who snuffed out the Olympic torch may have blundered, but so, Sir, have you.

The Olympic torch is ignited at Olympia, the ancient home of the games in the Peloponnesian plain in southern Greece, not on Mount Olympus, a rocky mountain of nearly 3,000 metres in the northern part of that country, and altogether a very unpromising setting for an athletics meeting.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN SHERLOCK,
The Cottage,
Rudgwick, West Sussex.
May 10.

Sporting chance

From Mr T. Ward

Sir, Bath RFC, Stephen Hendry, Dionicio Carón, Manchester United — again. Could not the sporting world follow the example set by the Best Kept Village competition this year, in banning from future competition repeat winners, to give the rest of the world just a chance?

Yours faithfully,
TIM WARD,
118 Guildford Park Avenue,
Guildford, Surrey.
May 11.

OBITUARIES

STANLEY REED

Stanley Reed, Director of the British Film Institute, 1964-72, died on May 4 aged 85. He was born on January 21, 1911.

STANLEY REED did not behave as if he was somebody important, but he was. During the years in which he was Director of the British Film Institute it increased tenfold, becoming an important force in British cultural life. In what many people regard as its golden age, the institute became a focus for every kind of film activity.

The National Film Theatre was a window onto world cinema, the National Film Archive was developed into one of the most important of its kind, the London Film Festival unveiled talent from all over the world and the education department became central to both teachers and students of film.

Regional theatres were also developed to provide an alternative programme to mainstream cinema, while the institute's prolific publications became essential reading for anyone interested in cinema. In the area of production, the institute — first through the Experimental Film Fund, then through the Production Board — gave many of Britain's best film-makers their first break.

Reed did not achieve all this by himself. Although a man of independent spirit, he surrounded himself with people who were equally determined and passionate about cinema. In his time the institute did not resort to the bureaucratic arts of evasion or tend towards aggrandisement rather than development.

Stanley William Reed was born in London's East End. His family were craftsmen. His father was a printer and one of his uncles a cabinet-maker who — as the bookshelves and fittings in Reed's home testified — passed on his skills to his nephew.

As a boy, Reed was something of a rebel, but he won a scholarship to Stroud Grammar School which, unusually for the time, was both progressive and coeducational. It was there that he met his wife, Alicia, one of his classmates, whom he got to know after he had knocked her over on the stairs.



Reed discovered an interest in photography at an early age, and the first of his many cameras was a home-made pinhole. He was also an avid reader who, by his own (perhaps apocryphal) account, would select a book from the local public library, finish it on the way home, and then turn immediately around to take it back and exchange it for another.

He went on to study at the College of St Mark and St John, Chelsea, where he took an external degree and gained a teaching certificate. But perhaps more indicative of what was to come was the fact that he founded the Students' Union, and formed a dramatic society, a choir, an orchestra and a tea club — all in the face of fierce opposition from the college principal.

He started his career as a teacher in West Ham, where he introduced film appreciation into his English class. During the war, he and his wife accompanied groups of evacuees and taught in village schools around the country. Their first daughter, Jane, was born during an air raid over Wellingborough in Northamptonshire.

In 1951 Reed joined the BFI as its first education officer. He travelled throughout Britain, lecturing, teaching and promoting film education, as well as completing books and other publications, plus television schools broadcasts on film analysis. In 1956 he was appointed secretary.

Film bureaucrats tend to like their film-makers to be either foreign or

dead — preferably both. Then they could be generous and enthusiastic. For Reed however, film-makers were kindred spirits and he strongly supported production. His judgment was impeccable. The list of grantees of the experimental film fund includes hardly a name that is not known in the business or beyond: Tony Richardson, Karel Reisz, Lindsay Anderson, Claude Goretta, Alain Tanner, Kevin Brownlow, Peter Watkins, John Irvin. He appointed Bruce Beresford as the first head of production, then Mamoun Hassan, whom he supported when the latter introduced a policy of financing low-budget feature films.

The reasons behind Reed's retirement in 1972 are not well known. Certainly, he would not refer to them afterwards, not even privately. Many people, in fact, were to consider the whole event a disgraceful episode. In 1971 there was an attempt to have him removed by the combined efforts of members of an action committee, of John Davis of Rank who was a governor, and of two film-makers who were also governors.

Reed, it seemed, had set himself on a collision course with the aims of the education department. One member of its staff was heard to say that he would prefer people not to see a film than not to understand why they liked it. Reed would have disagreed with this intemperate view. John Davis, on a different tack, was no supporter of the expansion of regional theatres, while the film-makers wanted a change of personnel at the BFI's film magazine *Sight and Sound*, edited by Penelope Houston. They felt the magazine did not support British film-makers enough. Reed would not budge on any of these issues. But he had two heart attacks during the summer of 1971 and soon after that he announced his retirement.

As a boy, Reed had had a profound interest in his neighbourhood. He was curious about the way it worked and explored everything from the sewers to the cemetery. In his later years he was rarely without a camera, continuing to explore the London he loved.

Stanley Reed is survived by his wife Alicia and by their three daughters.

SIR GAETAN DUVAL, QC

Sir Gaetan Duval, QC, Mauritian politician and lawyer, died on May 5 aged 65. He was born on October 8, 1930.



OF THE internationally known figures to have emerged in African politics over the last four decades, one of the most colourful was Sir Gaetan Duval. During his controversial political career in Mauritius he served as Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Tourism.

Although the island of Mauritius is in the Indian Ocean, and two thirds of its population are of Asian origin, politically it has always been regarded as part of the African continent. Duval served as a parliamentarian in and out of Mauritius politics from 1968, when the island — previously a Dutch, French and English colony — became an independent state within the Commonwealth. It became a republic in 1992.

Throughout, Duval maintained a personal following among the electorate, despite the vicissitudes of his career. At the general election in December 1995 he became the sole member of the Opposition, being allocated a seat in Parliament as a result of receiving the highest number of votes among the unelected candidates. From the earlier days of independence it had been assumed, on grounds of ability and charisma, that he would succeed Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, first Prime Minister of Mauritius and father of the nation as well as father of the present Prime Minister. But so wary was Duval in his political allegiances — it was impossible at any time to pinpoint him on the Left-Right spectrum of political life — that he spent most of his years in Opposition, occasionally venturing into a coalition Government.

A Creole by parentage, Duval uniquely attracted widespread support, not just from the Creole community but from large sections of the Hindu and Muslim population, as well as from the Chinese and French settler minorities. His lasting contribution was to wean Mauritius

out of its one-crop economy of sugar. An irrepressible bon vivant, his flamboyance, coupled with his interest in international figures, including British royalty, suited him perfectly for the post of Minister of Tourism. Today tourism is the island's main source of revenue.

Duval's notoriety reached its peak in July 1989 when he was arrested for a murder committed 18 years previously. In the centre of Curepipe, the second town of Mauritius, in the middle of the island, a member of the left-wing party, Mouvement Militant Mauricien, was shot dead while sitting in a car, by someone travelling in a vehicle that had drawn up alongside. The shot was intended for the MMM's party leader, Paul Berenger, who happened to be absent that day from Curepipe. (He is currently Minister for Foreign Affairs in a coalition Government.)

Four men, known to be supporters of Duval's party, were tried and convicted of second-degree murder under the French criminal code. They were sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment. On his release from prison, one of the convicted men fingered Duval as the instigator of the murder. The prosecution of Duval was quickly dropped, however, and the ignominy of his arrest did little to dissuade a sufficient number of the electorate from voting for him to be appointed constitutionally to sit in Parliament.

Duval was knighted in 1981. He received several honours from the French Government. Gaetan Duval was married and divorced from an English woman by whom he had a son, Xavier Luc Duval, who survives him. Until last December his son served as a minister in the Jugernaut Government.

ALBERT MELTZER

Albert Melzer, anarchist, died on May 7 aged 76. He was born on January 7, 1920.

CONVINCED that all privilege was the enemy of freedom, Albert Melzer devoted his life to class struggle and libertarian revolution. For 60 years he was a standard-bearer for the international anarchist movement, rebelling not only against the principles of monarchy and capitalism, politicians and bureaucrats, but also against the petty, opportunistic aspirations which sprung up amid revolutionaries themselves.

His 60-year commitment to anarchism remained solid through all the vagaries and battles of the movement's history. He fought Oswald Mosley's blackshirts in Cable Street in 1936, he supported the anarchist communes during the Spanish Revolution and championed anti-Nazi resistance efforts in prewar Germany. During the 1960s revival of anarchism he fought off a neo-liberal moderation of its ideals holding through his strict sectarianism to a hardline ideal, which was later to convince countless young people to become active

in the movement during the Thatcherite 1980s.

Albert Melzer was born into a Roman Catholic family living in Hackney. Although he attended Laymer Grammar School, Edmonton, he did not stay there long, and his education was largely completed by himself. Like his father, who scraped together enough money to support his family through a motley assortment of jobs — he worked as a salesman, lorry driver, tailor and even soldier — the streetwise Melzer was to negotiate his way through the Orwellian world of a *Down and Out* London, earning his living as among other things, a fairground promoter, warehouseman, theatre manager and, in later years, as a second-hand bookseller and Fleet Street copytaker.

He occasionally even worked as an extra in films, taking the part of an anarchist prisoner in Leslie Howard's anti-Nazi Pimpernel Smith (1941). Howard had insisted that for the sake of authenticity real anarchists should be used to play the concentration camp scenes. However, it was one of his schoolboy experiences which was first to steer him towards the far Left.



where his chief ambitions were always to remain.

At Laymer Melzer had learnt to box, though the sport was seen as "common" by the school governors and especially by the prospective Labour MP. At the age of just 15, attending his first anarchist meeting, he found himself sparring in an intellectual arena when he defended his sport against the doyenne of the movement, Emma Goldman. He became from then on a dynamic participant at anarchist gatherings, joining several far left organisations and contributing to a

small but steadily growing number of magazines.

In 1936, with the rising tide of anarchist resistance to Franco in Spain, Melzer became a vigorous supporter of the revolutionary cause. He committed himself not only to a propagandist role, helping to organise solidarity appeals, but also more materially. Along with Captain J.R. White he organised illegal arms shipments from Hamburg to Spain as well as acting as a contact for the Spanish anarchist intelligence services in Britain. After the collapse of the revolution he helped to rebuild anti-Franco resistance in Spain.

During the Second World War Melzer resisted being conscripted, registering as a conscientious objector. Later, however, he did serve in the Army and played a part in the Cairo Mutiny of 1946. Towards the end of the 1940s Melzer found himself embroiled in the increasingly tangled tendencies of the far Left. At this time a neo-liberal trend of thought was beginning to dominate the anarchist movement. Melzer, adhering to his militant line, was passionately convinced that anarchism should not be

repackaged and marketed as a broader movement colonised by growing numbers of academic-orientated liberals and pacifists spawned by the disillusionments of war.

It was this, coupled with his later scepticism about the student-led New Left of the 1960s, which earned Melzer a reputation for sectarianism. However, it was this very tendency which was to convince many anarchists of subsequent generations to become active, and Melzer's headline convictions were to be responsible for bringing several recruits into the movement over the past 30 years.

In 1967 Melzer started a satirical magazine called *Cuddon's Cosmopolitan Review*. Two years later, in collaboration with Stuart Christie who had been imprisoned in Spain for his attempted assassination of Franco, he founded a prisoners' aid group, the Anarchist Black Cross. Its magazine was first published in 1968 under the name of *Bulletin* but two years later it became *Black Flag*. It is still printed today.

Together with Stuart Christie, Melzer also wrote *The Floodgates of Anarchy*, which was published in 1970. He then went on to write *The Anarchists in London, 1935-1955*, published in 1975, a survey of the early part of his own political career, which he followed up with his autobiography *I Couldn't Paint Gold: An Anarchist's Story* (1995). Melzer also founded the Kate Sharpley Library, an archive of anarchist material currently based in Peterborough and probably the most comprehensive archive of its kind in Britain.

Melzer remained politically active until the end of his life, and even if his achievements could never have matched up to the loftiest of his hopes, he refused to relent in the pursuit of his ideals. He died after collapsing at an anarcho-syndicalist conference in Weston-super-Mare.

Melzer never married.

MAJOR-GENERAL DOUGLAS MILNE

Major-General Douglas Milne, Deputy Director-General of Army Medical Services, 1975-78, died on May 6 aged 76. He was born on May 19, 1919.



DOUGLAS MILNE made his name in the Army as a consultant in preventative medicine, called, in the old days, Army Hygiene, and later, Army Health. This came about because at the end of the war one of his early postings had been to the unhealthy climate of the Gold Coast. Milne pursued this specialisation throughout his military career, becoming Professor and Director of Army Health and Research in the Ministry of Defence before going on to be Deputy Director-General of Army Medical Services in 1975.

Douglas Graeme Milne — known by his friends as Dougie — was a modest, unassuming and enormously conscientious Scot. Yet, with a twinkle in his eye, he was always ready to puncture any pomposity. An Aberdonian, he was one of five sons of George Milne, four of whom became doctors. He was educated at Robert Gordon's College, Aberdeen, and read medicine at Aberdeen University, where he excelled academically and won a hockey Blue. A quick and agile man, he went on to represent the Army at hockey.

After qualifying, he was given a wartime commission in the RAMC in 1943 and, after serving as the regimental medical officer of the 5th Kings Own Shropshire Light

Infantry for nine months, he was posted to West Africa on the first of his many overseas tours. When the Second World War ended, he took a short service commission and was sent to Malta and Egypt.

By 1951, when his short service commission was due to expire, he had doubts about staying in the Army, even though he had enjoyed the life. He decided to try a civilian medical career and qualified for his DPH (Diploma in Public Health). Not surprisingly for a young man who had already seen something of the world, he found two years in a local public health department more than enough.

The shortage of army doctors in the mid-1950s, caused by the increased military activity during the early phases of the withdrawal from Empire, led to his being welcomed back into the RAMC with the grant of a regular commission as a major.

From 1956 onwards, Milne's career was a balanced mix of home and overseas postings: BAOR and Malta, 1956-60, as a major and the War Office, HQ 1st (British) Corps and HQ Far East Land Forces as a colonel of the Army Health Directorate, 1961-71. He became a consultant in Army Health in 1964.

He joined the staff of the Royal Army Medical College at Millbank in 1971 as Professor of Army Health; and was elected FRCM (Fellow of the Faculty of Community Medicine) in 1972. Promoted brigadier in 1973, he was appointed Director of Army Health and Research in the Ministry of Defence, and three years later, promoted major-general, he took over as Deputy Director-General of Army Medical Services. In this post he served no fewer than three director-generals until his retirement in 1978. He enjoyed the additional distinction of being Honorary Surgeon to the Queen for the last four years of his service.

After he retired, Milne was Colonel Commandant of the RAMC, 1979-84. He rejoined the Ministry of Defence as a civilian medical officer in the medico-legal branch, dealing with the increasing load of medical litigation. His dry sense of humour, honesty of purpose and ability to take immense care in handling other people's troubles, made for success in this thankless task.

He married Jean Millicent Gove, a WRNS officer, in 1944; they had one daughter. Both survive him.

PERSONAL COLUMN

GIFTS A birthday present. Only one. Guaranteed. Free delivery. Phone 0171 229 0000.	FLIGHTS DIRECTORY COST CUTTERS on flights & hotels. In Europe, USA & most services. Tel: 0171 229 0000.	FLIGHTS DIRECTORY GREATLY Reduced Low cost flights, rail & car hire. Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS IF YOU are looking for a... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY for the... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
SERVICES PLANT PARTS... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	FLIGHTS SEATS ALGAL... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
TUITION & COURSES BRITISH... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
WANTED PINK... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
UK HOLIDAYS CENTRAL... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
OVERSEAS TRAVEL PORTUGAL... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
FLIGHTS DIRECTORY COST CUTTERS... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
TRAILFINDERS More than just low cost flights... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.
TRAILFINDERS More than just low cost flights... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	CAPITAL FLIGHTS Capital... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS COUNTRY HOUSES... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	YOUR WILL If you are making your... Tel: 0171 229 0000.	ANNOUNCEMENTS ROYAL SOCIETY... Tel: 0171 229 0000.

Remember The Donkeys And We'll Remember You!

Over 6,700 donkeys have been taken into care many from lives tormented by cruelty and neglect. A donkey is never turned away from our Sanctuary and never put down unless there is no longer any quality of life.

We need your help to continue rescuing donkeys and to secure their future on one of our nine farms. A request to the donkeys will help immensely and your name will be inscribed on our Memory Wall and be blessed at our annual St Francis Day Memorial Service.

A copy of our "Guide to Making a Will" is available on request.

The Donkey Sanctuary, (Dept TM), Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU. Tel: (01395) 578222. Enquiries to Dr E. D. Svendsen, MBE Reg. Charity No. 264818

SIR RIDER HAGGARD

Sir Rider Haggard, whose death is announced, was one of the most striking, picturesque, and versatile men of his day. Romantic writer; agricultural expert; Imperial politician; deeply interested in the affairs of Church and State; much of a mystic, and not a little of an ascetic also, so much so that an intimate said of him that a turn of the wheel might have sent him into a Trappist monastery; Haggard was, nevertheless, keenly alive to mundane affairs, especially when they bore the charm of a speculative or adventurous colouring. But with all his many-sided interests and activities, he remained first and foremost a patriotic Englishman of whom his fellow-countrymen had every reason to be proud. Born on June 22, 1856, he was educated at Ipswich and by private tutors. In common with many men who have won distinction in after life, he showed little promise in his early years. His father's influence procured for him the appointment of secretary to Sir Henry Bulwer, Governor of Natal. In

ON THIS DAY

May 15, 1925

Although the best known of Haggard's books were set in Africa, others among his 34 adventure novels took place in Iceland, Mexico, and Constantinople. Kipling was a close friend.

1877 he was chosen to serve on the staff of the Special Commissioner to the Transvaal. Returning to England, he married Mariana Margitson, an heiress, by whom he had four children. He started to write novels, and "King Solomon's Mines", which appeared in 1886, took the town by storm. Its reception convinced Haggard that he had found his true vocation. The book was written very rapidly, in response to a playful challenge on the part of one of the author's

friends, who, shrewdly suspecting his latent powers, dared him, so to speak, to write a romance more or less in the vein of Stevenson's "Treasure Island". The high spirits and humour of the book proved as irresistible as its thrilling and skilfully developed plot. "She", "Cleopatra", "Montezuma's Daughter", "The People of the Mist", and a long list of equally enthralling romances confirmed and established his reputation. "She" was hardly less successful than "King Solomon's Mines", and nearly twenty years later this mysterious lady reappeared in "Ayesha", and again in "She and Allan" in 1921. Allan was Allan Quatermain, a character said to have been modelled on the great hunter, F.C. Selous. As a romancer Haggard possessed extraordinary fertility and range of imagination, controlled by a singular power of investing even the wildest incidents with a certain air of plausibility. Nor was he deficient in the capacity of drawing character, and this greatly helped to distinguish him from the crowd of ordinary sensational novelists.

BARCLAYS

Join the bank
you can live with...

THE TIMES

SPONSORED
BY
BARCLAYS
BANK

GOOD

Why do the traditional universities still have such an advantage over their newer academic rivals?

BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

**HONOURS**
are shared
among three
very strong
departments for
the accolade of
best business
and management
providers catering
for both undergraduate
and research students.

The London School of Economics, University of Manchester, Institute of Science and Technology, and Warwick University are among five institutions with a grade five for research and an excellent rating for teaching. Some of the well-known business schools are omitted from the list because they do not run undergraduate courses. For example, the London Business School has been awarded the highest

grades for its teaching and research. New universities rated excellent for business studies include Glamorgan, De Montfort, Kingston and Northumbria.

1	LSE
2	UMIST
3	Warwick
4	Lancaster
5	Strathclyde
6	City
7	Nottingham
8	Loughborough
9	Sheff
10	Manchester
11	Cardiff
12	Sheff Hallam
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

HISTORY

TABLE-topping Cambridge came first among four universities recording the highest grades in both teaching and research in history, the others being Birmingham, King's College London and the London School of Economics.

Teaching excellence was named at 18 institutions by the English funding council, including Canterbury Christ Church College. The Welsh funding council judged history excellent at Swansea.

The English funding council concluded that its survey of 89 departments showed: "History students can confidently expect to receive at least a sound education and often a very fine one." It added: "There are good employment rates for history graduates."

However, some modular courses were criticised for

fragmenting learning. Teaching assessments have so far only been made for history departments in England and Wales.

1	Cambridge
2	LSE
3	Oxford
4	Birmingham
5	King's, London
6	York
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff

GEOGRAPHY

**THE** ratings for geography are peppered with top-grade departments. Five universities

assessors, a success reflected by an increase in the entry grades required. Its rating of excellent reflected a large proportion of distinguished researchers on the staff.

1	Cambridge
2	Oxford
3	Durham
4	Bristol
5	UCL
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

The success of a one-third expansion at third-place Leeds was particularly praised by

assessors, a success reflected by an increase in the entry grades required. Its rating of excellent reflected a large proportion of distinguished researchers on the staff.

Playing the ratings game

John O'Leary

explains how the
department tables
are compiled,
and why
they matter**T**he ratings game is gradually changing the face of British higher education. No matter how much academics may resent the snap judgments which emerge, universities cannot afford to ignore the official assessments of teaching and research.

Research ratings, which are being updated this year for the first time since 1992, have always had funding strings attached. Hitting the top of the assessment scale can add between £100,000 and £350,000 a year to a department's budget, depending on the subject.

The teaching assessments do not yet bring the same budgetary rewards, but in many universities a top rating is equally coveted. Schools have become more aware of the system, and a verdict of "excellent" is an invaluable recruiting standard for any department.

Similarly, the few "unsatisfactory" ratings have had an immediate impact. Only 15 departments in Britain have experienced the sinking feeling that comes with a bottom grade, and each of those revisited so far has been upgraded. Indeed, postgraduate English at Exeter University, the only traditional university teaching to fall foul of the assessors, improved so dramatically before the required second inspection that it is now rated as excellent.

All others are now satisfactory, having convinced a second team that faults have been rectified. At Teesside University, for example, £10,000 was spent improving resources for English in the library and the curriculum altered substantially. Ironically, some students preferred the original course, but the revision impressed the assessors.

The ratings are only one part of the information available for prospective students. As well as institutions' own prospectuses, the Higher Education Quality Council produces "academic audits" of every university, which ensure that procedures are in place to guarantee acceptable standards.

But most readers will find the funding councils' assessments more user-friendly. The reports are available from the separate councils for England, Scotland and Wales. The three countries all differ slightly in their grading system. In the first round of assessments, England and

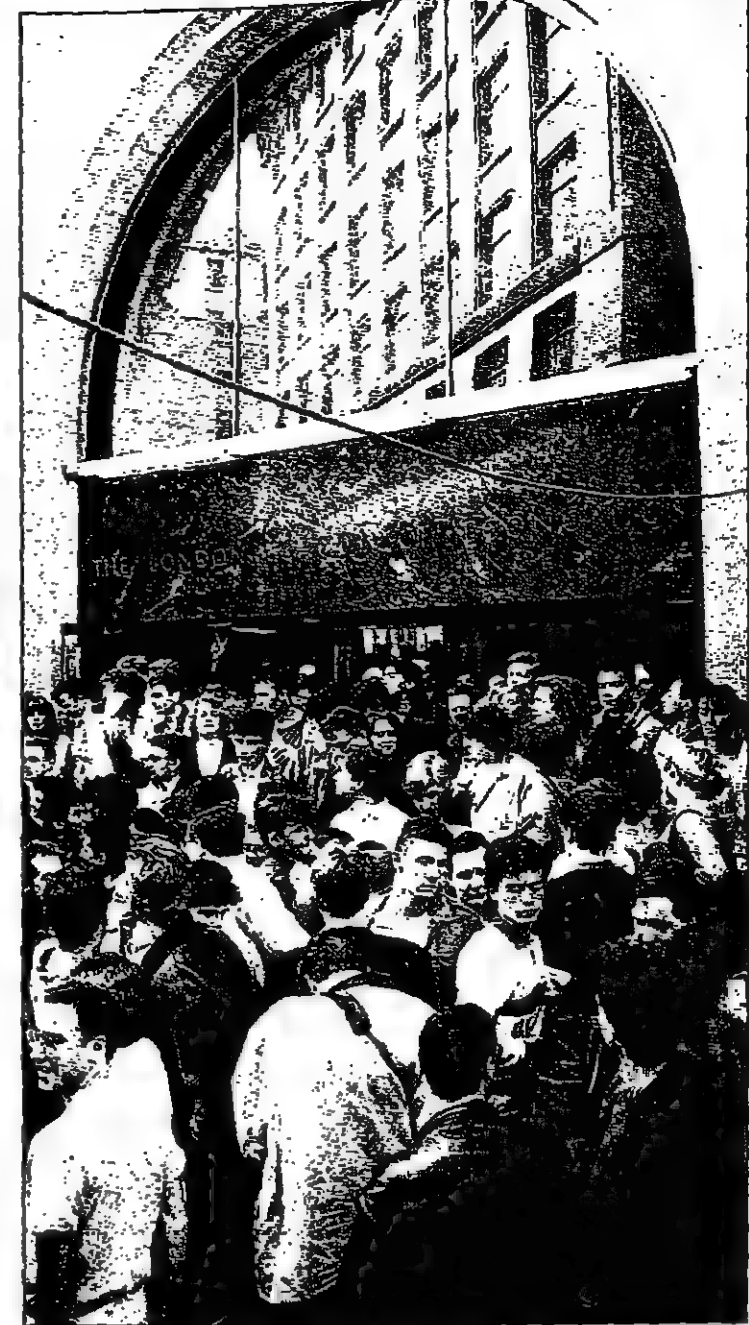


Two at the top: Cambridge (left) leads the field in eight subjects, while the London School of Economics is top for business and management

Wales used three categories, while the Scottish Higher Education Funding Council added a fourth, "highly satisfactory", option.

Vice-chancellors were so concerned at the likely effects of a system which rated the vast majority of departments as merely satisfactory that they fought a year-long battle to have the procedures changed. They feared that anything other than an excellent rating would come to be regarded as an indication of substandard provision.

The result has been a new, more detailed grading system for the second round of reports, which have already started to appear. Departments are rated on a four-point scale for the curriculum, teaching, student achievement, support and



guidance for students, resources and quality assurance. An unsatisfactory verdict in any area deprives the department of formal approval and triggers a second assessment.

The range of criteria goes some way to explaining why the teaching assessments have not produced the results that many observers expected. Rather than underlining the new universities' proclaimed strengths in teaching, they tend to continue the older institutions' dominance.

Many of the traditional universities have placed more emphasis on teaching in the last few years, but their superior facilities and better staffing levels give them an in-built advantage in most subjects. Nevertheless, some of the less fashionable universities have had the excellence

of their teaching confirmed by the assessors. Strathclyde, for example, has registered top scores in seven of the 12 departments assessed, a record matched in Scotland only by St Andrews.

The tables on these pages use a combination of teaching and research assessments, together with the average entry standards for each subject. The combination of indicators, which is less complex than last year's first attempt at the exercise, is intended to give a rounded picture of departments.

The rankings for social policy and social work, geography, geology and mechanical engineering vary slightly from the tables in the book of the Good University Guide, which will appear at the end of the month.

Extra information on entry standards, which has been added since the book went to print, has allowed these subjects to be updated.

Some of the subjects on these pages have not been assessed by all three funding councils. Reports on anthropology, English, history, law, social work and social policy have yet to be published in Scotland. The book of the guide will contain separate tables for Scotland in economics, mathematics, physics, civil engineering and electrical and electronic engineering.

● Reports on departments in England and Northern Ireland can be ordered on 01793 37437. For those in Scotland, phone the SHEFC's publications unit on 0131-313 6500, and in Wales 01222 761861.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

THE link between excellence in teaching and research is much less marked in mechanical engineering than in most subjects. Only Sheffield University achieved the maximum score in both areas, while four other top-rated research departments were considered merely satisfactory for teaching.

Sheffield was particularly praised for its links with industry, including a visiting professors scheme in engineering design, as well as its emphasis on developing communication and other personal skills. The intake of students has been expanding by 10 per cent a year without any reduction in entry standards.

Two new universities, Coventry and Manchester Metropolitan, made the breakthrough to the top grade for

teaching, but low research grades robbed them of a place in our table.

Assessors found the strain on resources caused by the rapid increase in student numbers and the squeeze on university budgets was beginning to show in a large minority of departments. They added that too many students were dropping out in three out of five institutions providing mechanical engineering courses. The assessors also said the number of female students was low in mechanical engineering, ranging from none on some courses to 12 per cent at most. Schemes to attract more have met with little success.

They also said: "Total student numbers have increased during a period of declining applications resulting in broader entry standards and a

wider ability range."

Students who graduate are being rewarded with high levels of employment.

1	Sheffield
2	Bath
3	Sheff
4	Sheff
5	Sheff
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

ARCHITECTURE

**CAMBRIDGE** remains in top place this year for architecture on the strength of its high entry grades and all-round excellence in teaching and research.

University College London was the only other institution to match its maximum grades in teaching and research. However, excellent teaching was also found at Cardiff and the civic universities of Bath, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield and York, as well as Glasgow School of Art and Strathclyde in Scotland.

Courses were generally found to be stimulating and professionally relevant in this popular subject. The English funding council found departments were generally very up to date and successfully bridged the arts, design and science. Independent working and problem-solving skills were well developed but not

many departments fostered team-working skills. Attitudes to Computer Aided Design varied widely from departments where it was seen as fundamental to those which regarded it as peripheral. The funding council assessors said: "The better departments often had their own libraries well stocked with specialist materials."

The English funding council awarded 30 departments excellent ratings for teaching and the Welsh funding council judged two as excellent. Scottish universities will be assessed for teaching quality next year.

Teaching was graded unsatisfactory at three institutions:

1	Cambridge
2	Cardiff
3	UCL
4	Newcastle
5	Sheff
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

OXFORD'S highly qualified undergraduate entrants helped to put it into first place in The Times league for English departments.

Assessors graded its demanding undergraduate course excellent and found that graduates were more successful than average in obtaining highly competitive jobs.

English lectures were said to be "well-structured, lucid expositions of complex material, often delivered with verve and wit".

Cambridge, in second place, was matched by Leeds, UCL and Sussex in being awarded the highest grades for both teaching and research.

The English funding council awarded 30 departments excellent ratings for teaching and the Welsh funding council judged two as excellent. Scottish universities will be assessed for teaching quality next year.

Teaching was graded unsatisfactory at three institutions:

ENGLISH

Exeter, for its postgraduate teaching; the University of Teesside and Chichester Institute of Higher Education. Exeter has since been upgraded to excellent. Teesside was downgraded to satisfactory, and assessors were revisiting Chichester this week.

Funding council assessors found that demand for English at all the top 20 universities was high. For example, there were 15 applicants for every place at Southampton, which required an average of 25 A level points for entry.

English departments were said to be diverse in their approach, with varying emphasis on knowledge of literature, skills in the use of English, and exploration of its cultural contexts.

Higher grades were awarded to departments which attracted capable, enthusiastic students, widened access to mature students, attached value to skills useful in employment, and had excellent staff-student relations.

Assessors said the integration of information technology within the curriculum could generally be improved.

For postgraduate courses, for example, they said that library provision was considered "barely adequate" in half of the departments visited, and specific preparation for employment was seldom found.

1	Oxford
2	Cambridge
3	Leeds
4	UCL
5	Birmingham
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

MUSIC



MUSIC is a new subject in our rankings. The assessment of teaching was not complete for last year's guide. The reports suggest that undergraduates are well served in British universities: there is an unusually high proportion of top ratings for teaching, even though top research grades are thin on the ground.

Although not one of the largest subjects, music is available at a wide range of institutions. The Royal College, Royal Academy, the Royal Northern College and the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama were all rated as excellent for teaching. In Northern Ireland both

Queen's, Belfast and Ulster University managed the top rating.

Only Worcester College of Higher Education has been declared unsatisfactory.

1	Cambridge
2	King's
3	Sheff
4	Sheff
5	Sheff
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL POLICY

EAST Anglia's pre-eminence in the area of social work was confirmed when it became the only department to receive top grades in both teaching and research.

A number of former polytechnics and higher education colleges were judged to be among the 16 excellent departments for teaching applied social work by the English funding council, including Anglia Polytechnic University, Huddersfield, Bradford and Ilkley Community College and West London Institute of Higher Education.

In Wales, all six applied social work departments as-

sessed were described as satisfactory. Scottish universities have not yet been assessed.

The English funding council found the "long-standing binary divide" between polytechnics and universities was reflected in high scores for teaching quality and application of research at traditional universities and the diverse access and good student support at new universities. However, these two traditions were said to be rapidly converging.

Research was seen as highly beneficial to teaching in older universities, which could benefit from stronger links with social work agencies.

1	East Anglia
2	LSE
3	York
4	Sheff
5	Sheff
6	Sheff
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

LAW



THE Singaporean Government's schedule of British universities recognised for law, listed in The Times on Monday, has introduced new controversy into rankings for the subject.

Although all of the law schools on the island's "white list" appear in our top 20, two of the leading universities are missing.

Both Sheffield and Warwick are among the top ten universities for law, judging by our combination of teaching and research grades and entry standards. But, despite being rated excellent for teaching, neither university has its degrees recognised for immediate admission to the Singapore Bar.

The "white list" was drawn up before teaching had been assessed in England and Wales. The process has only just been completed in Scotland, where new rankings are due before the end of the month. The timelag will raise further concerns about the basis for foreign governments' restrictions.

Five universities were given top ratings for both teaching and research in the Higher Education Funding Council for England's assessments. They were Cambridge, Oxford and three London University colleges: King's, University College and the London School of Economics.

Derby University received the only unsatisfactory rating, but the department has since been upgraded after a return visit by inspectors.

Traditional universities dominate the rankings for both teaching and research, but three former polytechnics have gained special recognition for their teaching. The universities of Northumbria, Oxford Brookes and the West of England, at Bristol, were all assessed as excellent.

In Wales, all five law departments were rated as satisfactory. In Northern Ireland, Queen's University, Belfast, won an "excellent" rating for teaching, narrowly missing a place in our top ten.

Law degrees command some of the highest entrance requirements in the university system. Some courses have 20 applicants to the place and demand at least three Bs at A

level. More than half of all law students are awarded at least an upper-second class degree, although assessors noted that the proportion of firsts was relatively low considering the subject's high entry standards.

The HEFCE's report on the subject found most teaching to be of good quality. The drop-out rate is relatively low, especially in traditional universities, and about seven out of ten graduates go on to take professional examinations.

1	Cambridge
2	Oxford
3	King's
4	UCL
5	LSE
6	Manchester
7	Sheff
8	Sheff
9	Sheff
10	Sheff
11	Sheff
12	Sheff
13	Sheff
14	Sheff
15	Sheff
16	Sheff
17	Sheff
18	Sheff
19	Sheff
20	Sheff

هكذا من الأصل

UNIVERSITY GUIDE

Plus where to find the best departments nationwide: our tables list the top universities in 14 subjects

GEOLOGY

NFIVE universities with top research grades in geology added an excellent rating in teaching when the assessment of teaching quality was completed this year.

Cambridge and Oxford came out on top of *The Times* table because of their more stringent entry requirements. The others with maximum marks were Leeds, Liverpool and Newcastle.

Cambridge, which has one of the largest geology departments in Britain with more than 160 students, was praised in its teaching assessment for its high level of integration between lectures, practical work and tutorials.

Courses are assessed at the end of each year and field courses, while not compulsory, were taken by almost all students. The students were

said to be "forthcoming and articulate", attributes fostered by an emphasis on oral presentations and seminar participation.

Half of Cambridge's geology students progress to higher degree courses.

Leeds, which has an even bigger department, was particularly praised for its rapid development of new teaching and assessment methods. Its modern and applied flavour was enhanced by strong collaboration with industry. Graduates were said to be held in high esteem by employers.

A total of 18 geology departments were awarded excellent ratings for their teaching by the English funding council, and seven were said to have outstanding research, with some of international quality, at the time of the last assessment.

In Scotland, the subject is taught at just four universities,

with Edinburgh and Glasgow rated excellent and Aberdeen and St Andrews highly satisfactory.

No departments in England or Scotland were found to be unsatisfactory.

The quality of geology teaching in Wales has yet to be assessed.

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 1 | Cambridge |
| 2 | Oxford |
| 3 | Edinburgh |
| 4 | Leeds |
| 5 | Birmingham |
| 6 | UCL |
| 7 | Newcastle |
| 8 | Liverpool |
| 9 | Reading |
| 10 | Bristol |
| 11 | Imperial |
| 12 | Royal Holloway |
| 13 | Queen's, Belfast |
| 14 | Southampton |
| 15 | Durham |
| 16 | Leicester |
| 17 | Glasgow |
| 18 | Sheffield |
| 19 | Keele |
| 20 | Aberdeen |

ANTHROPOLOGY

ANTHROPOLOGY is one of the smallest subjects to have been assessed, but it has among the highest success rates. Six of the 14 departments in England have top ratings for both teaching and research. They are Cambridge, the London School of Economics, the School of Oriental and African Studies, University College London, Manchester and Oxford.

Only three of the remaining departments have been rated as less than excellent for teaching. Queen's University, Belfast, Thames Valley and Goldsmiths College have all been assessed as satisfactory.

The subject is yet to be assessed in Scotland. In Wales, Cardiff and Swansea both received satisfactory ratings for sociology and anthropology degrees.

- | | |
|----|--------------------|
| 1 | Cambridge |
| 2 | Oxford |
| 3 | LSE |
| 4 | Manchester |
| 5 | UCL |
| 6 | SOAS |
| 7 | UCL |
| 8 | Keele |
| 9 | Durham |
| 10 | Bristol |
| 11 | Goldsmiths, London |
| 12 | Queen's, Belfast |
| 13 | Oxford Brookes |
| 14 | Swansea |

COMPUTING

COMPUTER studies was one of the largest fields assessed in the first round of ratings for teaching quality. Yet only eight out of more than 100 departments achieved the maximum score for both teaching and research. They were Cambridge, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Manchester, Oxford, Warwick, York and Imperial College London.

The addition of entry grades to the formula used to rank universities here took the two ancient universities to the top of the pile. Taking account of the proportion of staff entered for the last research assessment also separated some departments from the rest.

Two departments received an unsatisfactory rating from their initial inspection. But Thames Valley University has already been promoted to "satisfactory" after a return visit by assessors, and Derby University is likely to follow suit when its second report is published.

However, the funding council's unusually trenchant report on computer studies teaching said there was "no room for complacency". Although ten departments only just missed an excellent rating, as many were "only just satisfactory".

Assessors were impressed with much of the equipment used in a subject that needs to keep abreast of continual and rapid development. "Assessment teams were critical, not only of the resources, but of pedestrian teaching, reduced opportunities for independent learning, limited opportunities for staff development and the arrangements for quality control."

About 40 per cent of undergraduates manage a first or upper second class degree, but the rate rises sharply in universities with high entry standards.

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Cambridge |
| 2 | Oxford |
| 3 | Warwick |
| 4 | Imperial |
| 5 | York |
| 6 | Keele |
| 7 | Edinburgh |
| 8 | Glasgow |
| 9 | Bristol |
| 10 | Sheffield |
| 11 | St Andrews |
| 12 | Belfast |
| 13 | Leeds |
| 14 | Royal Holloway |
| 15 | Nottingham |
| 16 | UCL |
| 17 | Southampton |
| 18 | East Anglia |
| 19 | Newcastle |
| 20 | Queen Mary & Westfield |
| 21 | UMIST |

CHEMISTRY

OXFORD and Cambridge remain top of the league in chemistry, with Nottingham replacing Southampton in third place in this year's rankings.

The top ten reflects the dominance in the discipline of the traditional universities, with little change on last year. Leicester moves up to 10th and Glasgow to 14th, both from 18th equal.

However, the Oxbridge departments were not the only ones to record maximum scores for both teaching and research in a competitive field. The feat was repeated by Durham, Nottingham and Southampton.

Excellent teaching was also recognised by assessors from the English funding council at Bristol, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Imperial, Manchester, Not-

tingham Trent, and the Open University.

Six of the 12 chemistry departments in Scotland were rated as excellent for the quality of their teaching, as were two departments in Wales, at Cardiff and Bangor. The Scottish successes included departments at two new universities: Glasgow Caledonian and Robert Gordon in Aberdeen. The other excellent was at Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews and Strathclyde, with both Edinburgh and St Andrews also receiving a grade four for research.

The English funding council found none of the 72 chemistry departments it assessed to be unsatisfactory, although the development of a wider range of approaches to teaching and learning was "disappointingly slow". In general, courses were often found to be delivered in a traditional "chalk and talk" method with more scope for allowing students to

lead tutorials, seminars and workshops.

Drop-out rates were "unacceptably high" in a minority of institutions, especially in the first year of courses. However many chemistry graduates were successfully going on to further study or employment related to their course.

- | | |
|----|-------------|
| 1 | Cambridge |
| 2 | Oxford |
| 3 | Nottingham |
| 4 | Imperial |
| 5 | Durham |
| 6 | Southampton |
| 7 | Leeds |
| 8 | Bristol |
| 9 | Edinburgh |
| 10 | Leicester |
| 11 | Manchester |
| 12 | Strathclyde |
| 13 | St Andrews |
| 14 | Glasgow |
| 15 | Cardiff |
| 16 | Hull |
| 17 | Bath |
| 18 | East Anglia |
| 19 | Sheffield |
| 20 | Reading |

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

EAST Anglia retained its premier position in the environmental science league table by recording an excellent assessment in teaching to add to its top research rating.

Three other universities, Lancaster, Reading and Southampton, have also earned top marks in both areas, which are reflected in their placings near the top of the table.

Almost 70 per cent of the classes observed were considered excellent at Reading, where more than half of the graduates went on to do further research.

Reading was especially praised by assessors for its comprehensive library, modern curriculum and high-quality staff. The assessors said: "Favourable staff-student ratios confer considerable advantages and encourage careful recruitment, comprehensive induction and effective academic and pastoral support for students."

In all, 16 of the 53 departments assessed so far have been judged excellent for teaching quality.

Greenwich was one of the former polytechnics awarded an excellent rating for teaching, although its lack of a grading in the last research assessment precluded it from *The Times* top 20.

The only unsatisfactory grading awarded for teaching has been to North Riding College of Higher Education in Scarborough, North Yorkshire, which has since been revisited and is expected to be upgraded to satisfactory. The college reorganised its field and laboratory work and improved its library stock and other support services, as well as reviewing the curriculum. Plymouth, a former polytechnic, moved further up the table to 5th from 11th position last year. Its showing reflects a well-established reputation in

the field with particular strengths in maritime specialities. Another new university, Hertfordshire, which has high entry requirements, also rises into the top ten this year.

Stirling, in 6th place, was awarded an excellent rating for teaching by the Scottish funding council.

- | | |
|----|------------------------|
| 1 | East Anglia |
| 2 | Lancaster |
| 3 | Reading |
| 4 | Southampton |
| 5 | Plymouth |
| 6 | Stirling |
| 7 | Keele |
| 8 | Hertfordshire |
| 9 | Queen Mary & Westfield |
| 10 | Bristol |
| 11 | Cambridge |
| 12 | Liverpool |
| 13 | Bangor |
| 14 | Midwestern |
| 15 | Derby |
| 16 | Dundee |
| 17 | Edinburgh |
| 18 | Sheffield |
| 19 | Sheffield |
| 20 | Sussex |

TOMORROW

Looking ahead: the changes in store for students and universities, the subjects and universities giving the best chance of a job, and how new technology is changing higher education

Desperately seeking dons

David
Charter on the
research
assessments

When Dennis Kavanagh transferred to Liverpool, his move was likened to that of Stan Collymore, who similarly switched from Nottingham to Merseyside.

While the soccer star was signed to boost Liverpool's title hopes, Kavanagh, a politics professor, went to help to raise Liverpool University's chances in the fiercely competitive game of winning research funding.

Professor Kavanagh was one of many leading academics to change sides in the build-up to the Research Assessment Exercise. The assessment happens every four years and determines how government cash for research, this year worth £630 million, is shared among university departments.

The best of Professor Kavanagh's publishing record over the past four years will now count towards Liverpool's bid for funds.

"There has been an enormous amount of movement," Professor Kavanagh said. "Something like a dozen professors of politics have moved laterally, which is unusual."

Top dons are in demand because grades awarded in the assessment, based on academics' record and potential, translate to hard cash. Each department is judged on a scale of one to five, with a

grade five attracting four times as much as a grade two, and a grade one receiving nothing.

Sixty panels will award grades based on four published works from each academic named by university departments, which must also detail plans for the future so the overall "research environment" can be assessed.

Professor Kavanagh's own move was partly as a result of his own desire to leave Nottingham; others have been poached more actively. Professor Michael Jackson left Hull University for the city's former polytechnic on the promise of a reported six-figure budget. He was further tempted by the chance to set up Humberside's school of systems and information science as dean, with the ability to pick a 35-strong research and support staff.

Activity has been particularly high in the field of education studies.

Professor Alan Smithers, the director of the centre of education and employment

research at Manchester, was lured to Brunel University in London along with the centre name. His assistant, Dr Pamela Robinson, is moving as part of the same deal.

University common rooms abound with tales of fantastic deals. Several stars are said to have secured non-teaching packages so they can concentrate on their lucrative research projects. Other perks include generous travel deals and relocation expenses.

South Bank University is prominent among former polytechnics seeking to reach the premier league. It has recruited 13 new professors, including several academics from older universities.

Gavin Mackenzie, a director of headhunters Saxton Bampfylde, said: "The newer universities tend to be saying they want a research reputation in, say, six subjects and ask us to find two or three more people."

The transfer deadline for the assessment exercise passed on March 31. One survey showed there was a 45 per cent increase in professors' jobs advertised in the year to last August.

The upheaval created by the assessment has been criticised but Professor Kavanagh believes some good has come of it. "Universities are creating opportunities which will encourage researchers."



Alan Smithers: lured to Brunel University, London

Take a course in economics before you go to university

You may not have decided which university to go to yet, or even which subject to study. But you can start preparing yourself for student life early.

And it only takes a basic understanding of economics to

realise that, with interest on your money and the flexibility to develop your account as your needs change, a

Barclays Student Bank Account is a sensible choice.

So if you're interested all you need to do is keep your eyes peeled for the 1996 UCAS admissions mailing, coming through your door in June. You can

then register for an account opening pack and take advantage of a very special offer from Barclays.



Barclays. The bank you can live with this term, next term, long term.



Barclays Bank PLC. Registered in England. Reg. No. 1026167. Reg. Office: 54 Louth Street, London EC3P 3AF. Barclays Bank PLC is a member of the Banking Ombudsman Scheme (UK branches only).

Prime-time push for the presidency

"Okay, I'm working on it," said the cash machine from which I requested dollars in New York last week. But it will take more than a computer to help American television networks to solve the problem they are working on — one solved long ago, if imperfectly, in Britain. How to give presidential candidates free airtime to put their own case?

Obviously nothing as tedious as the British party political broadcast will be allowed on American television, where four commercial networks compete furiously for audiences. But something has to be done. Otherwise, only millionaires will be able to run for President, and the American public will know nothing more of candidates' views except what can be squeezed into a tiny soundbite or mocked in slick, insulting advertisements by their opponents.

The major American networks have good reason to try harder to beef up their serious presentation of the issues. They fear being blamed for the apathy, bordering on cynicism, of much of the American public towards the electoral process. They know, too, that they are already under fire from Congress, which has put them under orders to raise their programmes for sex and violence and to try harder to serve family values and education. And as commercial enterprises they want something very much from Washington in return: free use of the new digital television channels which, as in Britain, are seen as just around the corner.

Washington might prefer to question these channels off to the highest bidder. But giving away valuable is never easy. The idea of free television time for presidential candidates originated in February, according to *The New York Times*, with a speech to the National Press Club by Rupert Murdoch, chairman and chief executive of The News Corporation, parent company of The Times, and of Fox, the fourth and newest of the major American networks. His offer still stands — an hour in prime-time on the Fox network on the election eve, to be shared by the main candidates, to allow them to present their own views uninterrupted by interviewers. During the month preceding the election, Fox would also air ten one-minute position statements from each candidate, in prime-time commercial breaks.

The proposal gained credence (according to *The New York Times*) when the venerable American broadcaster, Walter Cronkite, endorsed it. For a time the three biggest American networks held out. But by the end of last week all had submitted free-time plans of their own. CBS and NBC are offering various packages of times for

statements and interviews, tailored to their own programme formats and schedules. ABC proposes giving candidates an hour's live debate in the final week of the campaign. Not to be outdone, some of the smaller networks, such as CNN and the Public Broadcasting Service, have made offers of their own. Even Court TV says it will give each candidate three 15-minute slots to address crime and justice issues.

The resulting hotchpotch hardly looks like progress. Every network is offering something different and seemingly incompatible with the rest. To take advantage of them all, a candidate would have to be on the screen practically all the time not necessarily a good way to win votes. So who will appear, when and for how long? A crusading group called The Free TV Coalition, founded by a former Washington Post journalist, is pressing for the networks to co-ordinate their electoral philanthropy. But getting synchronous political broadcasts across all networks seems a pretty vain hope. It will be an achievement merely to get agreement on who qualifies for free airtime. My bet is that American equivalents of the Monster Raving Loony Party will not get much of a look-in.

The worst scenario would not involve all the candidates accepting all the invitations. Nor would it be none of them accepting any. It would be the bolstering of a consensus that the interrogative journalist is an irrelevance: that political leaders are best left to explain themselves in their own terms.

The sad thing is that no one expects this largesse of free airtime in any way to halt or even reduce the number or sting of the so-called "attack ads". These, not allowed in Britain, are a source of considerable revenue for the stations that carry them.

But predictions are not impossible. For one thing, it seems pretty clear that American television, with its national reach and homogenised tone, cannot deliver informed debate on what promises to be the most divisive issue of the coming campaign: abortion. The depth of the division of feeling in America has to be seen to be believed. Some opponents of abortion will kill to defend the right to life, while abortion clinics publicly and frankly advertise their services. One poster on the New York subway offers abortion up to the 24th week of pregnancy, with consumer choice of "asleep or awake".

Another certainty about electoral coverage has bipartisan agreement. It is that television will favour the incumbent over the challenger. Bill Clinton, with his youth, high colour and country and western accent, is universally acknowledged to be made for television, while Bob Dole, and to say, has yet to find the medium that flatters him.



BRENDA MADDOX

Freshly squeezed OJ

O.J. SIMPSON's appearance on the Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan show was always likely to cause a rumpus, but one would hardly have expected Max Clifford to complain. Given the job of publicising O.J.'s British tour, he has already objected that our flabby presenters are too quick for his former running back.

The interview was rush, rush, rush, Clifford complains. "O.J. was answering a question from one of them and the other would interrupt with another. He was not given a chance to answer properly. They asked too many questions." The publicist claims that he has since been inundated with offers from other interviewers, but not from his first choice. "Michael Parkinson, for example, would leave you feeling you had learnt something new about the man." Presumably why the O.J. camp is none too keen.

Oxygen of publicity

A PAIR of pushy Oxford graduates have attracted a glittering array of the university's media alumni to support their plans for Britain's first fully-licensed student radio station, Oxygen FM. They include *Newsnight*'s Peter Snow, *Magdalen College* President Tony Smith, a former BBC producer,

IT IS hard to believe that *El País*, the Spanish newspaper that has just celebrated its twentieth birthday, is not at least a century old. For the newspaper, the emphatic Spanish market leader, has all the rigour, the consequence and — so its critics say — the dryness of a dowager.

Beginning with a circulation of 128,805, it now sells nearly 430,000 copies a day, a staggering number in a country where reading has never been a favourite pastime. Jesús Ceberio, the Editor, is only the paper's third, an enviable record of stability given Spain's record of striking and periodic political change — change from which editors on less durable newspapers would have struggled to insulate themselves. And little has altered in style since *El País* first splashed on its front page, in the faintly ponderous way which is its

trademark, a story from Ramón Vilari, in Brussels, headlined: "The recognition of political parties, essential condition for integration with Europe."

What makes *El País* one of the best newspapers in the world is its blend of self-confidence and self-consciousness. From the start *El País* set out to be a paper of record, as well as Spain's liberal conscience. The latter provides the key to its initial success: Spain in 1976, recently emerged from the dark years of Franco, thirsted for a forum to express its search for liberty. The newspaper quenched that thirst with its unflinching campaign against repressive laws on unions, divorce, free expression and abortion.

THE LISTENER



A bit of a rush: Simpson found Judy and Richard too quick for him

Andrew Knight, a News Corporation non-executive director; James Arnold-Baker, chief executive of Oxford University Press; and Duncan Grey, series editor of *The World*.

Philip Weiss, one of the PPE graduates behind the proposed station, clearly has the right idea about the way the world turns. "We realised that it would only be possible to raise financial backing if we used all the Oxford connections we could get," he says. Media moguls across the country are screening their incoming phone calls with care.

Richard Littlejohn of the Daily Mail, former *Irritant* of the Year, has been shortlisted as *Bigot of the Year* by the charity Mind for attacking £20,000 compensation awarded to a schizophrenic killer. Favourite for the title is Lenny Laybourne of *The Sun* for a story about mad Somalis.

Yawning gap

THE appointment of a new media aide to the Prince of Wales later this week will leave a gaping hole at the top of the Press Complaints Commission. So

impressive are the PCC director Mark Bolland's Fleet Street connections, that insiders are rumoured to be appointing two people to fill his boots.

Queen's English?

IN what could be the last Tory honours list for some time, three scions of the unstintingly loyal Associated Newspapers are looking at their last chance in the payback saloon. A shortlist has the chairman Sir David English pencilled in for a peerage, the former *Mail* on Sunday and *Evening Standard* Editor Stewart Steven for a knighthood — and watch out for the Dame Lynda Lee-Potter column.

To heap glory on all three, however, would be too transparent and the red pen is out. Steven could suffer for his new association with Mohamed Al Fayed's anti-establishment publishing group, Liberty. And to heap accolades upon Lee-Potter in the last throes of government may be looked upon as a bribe. Only one of the trio may yet be useful next time around. Stand up, Lord English.

FESTIVAL-GOERS at Cannes this week were puzzled by the BBC's latest classical adaptation, *Jude*. The title of Thomas Hardy's Wessex tragedy, *Jude the Obscure*, was truncated as a palliative to American distributors, who feared the second part might be beyond the reach of US audiences. The black monosyllable was, presumably, settled upon after rejection of such options as *Jude The Not Very Well Known* and *The Invisible Jude*.

Twenty years in the country

EL PAÍS

SPANISH NEWSPAPER BY J. A. MALLAM

rior Minister, for its criticism of his alleged role in state-sponsored anti-terrorist death squads: he took them to court, and, to endorse the Government's push to join. The last example, however, provides evidence of its greatest weakness — a desire to rise above the fray. *El País* did not take a clear stand on the Nato question: can one imagine *The Times* failing to take sides on a similarly crucial question for Britain?

The earnestness of *El País* can also be seen on its opinion page. On its 20th birthday, for example, there was an ab-

struse essay by an Italian philosopher on "The end of employment", in which Hegel, Gramsci and Marx were all cited within a few lines.

But the paper's strengths are so considerable as to render trivial these few quibbles. Its layout is unimpeachable and elegant (Harold Evans, a former Editor of *The Times*, described the front page of *El País* on the day after a column of the Civil Guard attempted a coup d'état in 1981 as one of the best designed he had seen); its foreign news coverage is the most extensive of any newspaper anywhere and its political sketches are mordant and upmarket (Maruja Torres is Spain's *Matthew Parris*).

El País takes itself very seriously, of course. But then so does everyone else.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

The author is the Madrid correspondent of *The Times*

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 481 4481

MEDIA, SALES & MARKETING

FAX:
0171 782 7826

BoreTech Holland B.V.
Directional Drilling Equipment for Installation of Utilities

Company Profile
Dynamic company specialising in directional drilling equipment, expanding rapidly and aiming to make its mark on the British market in the utilities sector. The company is planning to open a centrally located office in the UK to mastermind the launch of a new product.

If you believe you could make a real contribution, perhaps this is the job for you.

AN AMBITIOUS SALESMAN

Requirements
Energetic, ambitious salesman, aged between 30 and 35, with a technical background and the drive to get this company off the ground in the UK. Reliability and a great deal of perseverance will be expected. The appointment is initially for six months. At the end of this period the company's position will be reviewed.

If you think you are up to this challenge and you are available at short notice, please apply in writing to:

Mr. J. J. Zwaan
BoreTech Holland B.V.
Bedrijfsweg 9e
2351 BC Leiderdorp
The Netherlands

Tel no. ++ (31) 71 5417365
Fax no. ++ (31) 71 5417369

BoreTech
HOLLAND BV

Account Manager

Eastern European Experience

Lively, successful advertising agency based near Richmond Bridge requires an account manager to handle the part-European accounts of two blue-chip computer clients. Both clients are currently extending their marketing efforts into Eastern Europe and require agency support both in terms of our ability to implement the problems faced by these new affiliates and our ability to deal with them on a day-to-day basis. Candidates must therefore have experience of marketing computer products, particularly software, to these countries. Relevant linguistic skills will be an obvious advantage. Salary in the region of 28k plus company car allowance.

Apply in writing to the Managing Director, Matthew Poppy Henning Dickinson, Old Ryde House, 303 Richmond Road, Twickenham, TW1 2EF.

THE BURLINGTON MAGAZINE ADVERTISEMENT SALES EXECUTIVE

The Burlington Magazine, the leading international art history magazine, is looking for an experienced Advertisement Sales Executive, who will be responsible for selling advertising both in the UK and abroad. Drive and experience in face to face and telephone selling are essential.

Foreign languages helpful; French essential and a keen interest in the fine and decorative arts is important. The magazine's pages are an established showcase for the leading fine art and antiques dealers. The successful candidate will be expected to increase the range and quality of advertising.

Salary according to experience. Please write with full CV stating current salary level/experience to: Ms Kate Trevelyan, The Burlington Magazine, 14-16 Duke's Road, London WC1H 9AD.

SALES AND MARKETING DIRECTOR

HIGH VALUE ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

Circa £45,000
Bonus
Car

West
Country

In an increasingly competitive world, the astute commercial management of complex, international projects becomes of key importance to an organisation's success.

This company, an autonomous international subsidiary of a leading blue chip organisation, now seeks to appoint an outstanding Sales and Marketing professional to manage and develop business contracts throughout the world. This will involve further extending the company's impressive order book through securing additional major contracts.

As part of the management team and reporting to the Managing Director, it is expected that you will contribute significantly to the overall development of the company and should therefore be experienced in devising strategies and formulating business plans. This is a high profile marketing and sales role which calls for an individual, with both analytical skills and the ability to close deals, who is looking to rise to this international challenge.

Probably aged about 35-50 and of graduate calibre, you must have a good knowledge of electronics and a strong systems background. This position also demands proven and significant experience of political interaction with government bodies and demonstrable success at management level of working with large scale projects, typically with a value in excess of £10 million.

Clearly, this is an extremely demanding specification but one that is matched by the benefits package which includes an excellent bonus, company car, private healthcare and relocation assistance where appropriate.

If you believe you have the blend of skills and experience that we seek, please send your current CV and salary details to:

Ramsey Hall Limited, Avenue House, 82 The Avenue, Southampton, Hampshire, SO17 1XS, quoting reference no: SO4316/ST, or e-mail ramseyh@headhunt.demon.co.uk

All applications will be acknowledged and handled in the strictest confidence.



SEARCH • SELECTION • ASSESSMENT

Market Leading Consumer Brands Marketing Director

c. £60,000+bonus, car & benefits North West

An outstanding opportunity to join a dynamic market leading trading division of a major UK based manufacturing group.

Our client is an undoubted market leader with a wide spread of high profile household name products and an enviable reputation for its growth record, profitability and innovative approach to business development and due to promotion now seeks a new Marketing Director.

Two successful applicants will be of graduate calibre and have an impressive track record in marketing fast moving consumer goods in a highly competitive market perhaps in Household, D.I.Y., or similar field.

Personal traits should include financial acumen, commercial astuteness, communication skills, personal integrity, the ability to control a marketing team together with the determination to succeed.

Salary is negotiable but there is flexibility in the salary package for an outstanding candidate together with a profit related bonus. Please send full personal, career and salary details in confidence to: Red. AKT67

Austin Knight U.K. Ltd.
Ship Canal House, 78 King Street, Manchester M2 4WD
Email: a.knight@uk.austinknight.co.uk

BRITISH GYMNASTICS

has a vacancy for a

MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP MANAGER

(Minimum £25,000 + Lease Car)

to be based at its Headquarters at the Lilliball National Sports Centre, Newport, Hampshire.

Applicants must be of graduate calibre and possess extensive marketing experience with a proven track record which includes good negotiating skills.

For an information pack and application form contact Mr D. Milne, General Secretary, British Gymnastics, Lilliball National Sports Centre, Newport, Hampshire NP23 7QB.

How to make £30,000 a year

Freelance Writing

Study from home and make a new career or profitable second income. Free 0800 371 500

MORRIS

GRADUATES 24

Private company seeking to expand, offering highly motivated fourth year of studies, graduates, graduates or those of sound academic background, to be trained in the highest possible standards with a view to full participation within 2/3 years. For further details, call:

MARTIN LOCKYER 0171 379 3263

WANTED!

Not dead, but almost! Immediate opportunity for a dynamic, energetic, motivated individual to join a leading UK based property and estate agency. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and development of sales staff, and will also be responsible for the day to day running of the agency. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant subject, and will have a minimum of 2 years experience in a similar role. For further details, call:

0171 379 3263

SALES MANAGER

Required for two well-known UK based property and estate agencies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and development of sales staff, and will also be responsible for the day to day running of the agency. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant subject, and will have a minimum of 2 years experience in a similar role. For further details, call:

0171 379 3263

PROPERTY SALES

Required for two well-known UK based property and estate agencies. The successful candidate will be responsible for the recruitment, training and development of sales staff, and will also be responsible for the day to day running of the agency. The successful candidate will be a graduate with a degree in a relevant subject, and will have a minimum of 2 years experience in a similar role. For further details, call:

0171 379 3263

DEPARTMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR

To join our growing company, we are seeking a graduate with a degree in a relevant subject, and will have a minimum of 2 years experience in a similar role. For further details, call:

0171 379 3263

SPITFIRE TELECOMS GROUP

Is this Britain's ideal lifestyle?

As editor-in-chief of a home style magazine, Sally O'Sullivan influences thousands. She talks to Giles Coren

BRITAIN'S ideal home is just outside York. It is detached, has three to four bedrooms, a large garden, and something entirely new on the coffee table. *Ideal Home* magazine has been revamped, and in the new edition, launched this week with a £1 million marketing campaign, these details, and many more, of the nation's dream domicile are revealed in a reader survey.

The London residence of the new Editor-in-Chief, Sally O'Sullivan, however, is not like that at all. It is vast and maze-like, with a huge snooker room, dining and living rooms crammed with antiques and collections of oddities, walls groaning with pictures, and views over Holland Park square in west London.

Here she lives with her husband Charles Wilson, managing director of the Mirror group and former Editor of *The Times*, and their children Luke, 14, and Lily, 10. She had edited *Options*, *Riva*, *She* and *Harpers & Queen* before leaving *Good Housekeeping* in December last year (having added 100,000 to the circulation) to take the helm of *Ideal Home*, a 75-year-old IPC title, which looks to her to lead it through the battlefield of an ever more competitive market.

"Look how dirty the windows are," she moans, as the sun streams in, and illuminates not only the smears but dust in the air and in patches of overlooked furniture. "That is why this is such a good time for *Ideal Home*. It is only when the sun comes into the house for the first time that you really see it, and think 'God, I must do something'. That is why it is cheaper to spend all day in an office, and only see your home at night."

"I once took a month off work, and it was the most expensive time of my life." This certainly ties in with the magazine survey's revelation that 96 per cent of decisions on home decoration are made by women. "Charlie's priorities are the books, and his First World War stuff, but I choose all the colour schemes and fabrics."

And does Ms Sullivan, like 60 per cent of the women questioned, do most of the DIY? "We're not into DIY in this house," she says. "We're into PTN. That's Pay Through the Nose. Although Charlie is very good with Hoover belts and defuzzing kettles." While the Sullivan-Wilson house may differ in the specifics from the *Ideal Home* norm (how many have a 10ft portrait of themselves in a snooker room above?) she believes there is a revolution afoot that involves everyone.

"We have the same fascination with our home as the rest of the nation does. But the nature of that fascination has changed. Where people used



Style superno Sally O'Sullivan lives among a dusty but splendid clutter of antiques and portraits. There comes a time, she says, when you can no longer change your spouse or your looks — just the house

to see their home as primarily the place where they live, now it is all about the way you live.

"At the end of a century, people are spending more time making decisions about where and what they are. They want their home to say, 'this is where we're at. This is us. This is our handle on life.' And magazines must reflect that. *Ideal Home* has kept all the information and consumer advice that was always there, but added 25 per cent more editorial, particularly in fashion, beauty and food."

"Home interest has become a huge area. From only five or six titles ten years ago, there are now 17 — too many players chasing too little money. So

Ideal Home must shift into a more general market."

Since her first editing job, in 1982, the women's magazine market has undergone radical change. "There was a time when you would have thought from advertising that all women did was shop, totter round the kitchen and clean lavatories, and wait for an authoritative male voice to tell them what to buy. Now she makes her own decisions. The consumer is queen, and understanding her is a fundamental part of the future."

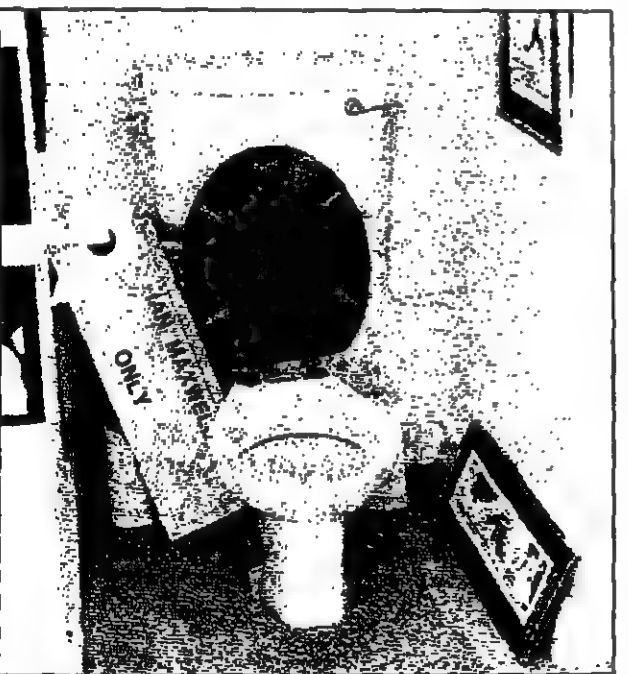
While she claims that circumstances may not allow her to repeat quite the same success that she had at *Good Housekeeping*, she has rea-

sons for optimism. "Interest in homes is due for a resurgence," she says. "There comes a time in your life when you know you are not going to change your partner, or your job. The only thing left is to change your home, or your way you look, but a conservative here, a herbaceous border there..."

So from a position of such power over the consumer can she confess to any hideous miscalculations of her own? "Oh, I have thrown a lot of the mistakes away. I still have some chocolate-coloured bed linen, and a collection of snow storms which is now in the loo." But the most recent disaster was earlier this year.

"We kept featuring paint finishes, like rag-rolling, in the magazine, and I got very keen on the idea, so we had a man come in and do it in the dining room. But when I saw it I just said 'Yuk!' and had it painted over again. That is the problem with working in magazines: if you do it on the pages you think you can do it at home. When I was on *Good Housekeeping* there never seemed to be any food in the house. And then when Christmas comes around you would do nothing about it because you think, 'we did Christmas in August'."

"So when you are running a home magazine, and go back each night to a place that looks like a gypsy encampment, you are always surprised to find that it doesn't look like the lovely house you have just put in the magazine."



Snowbound: the loo hides a small and surprising secret

The archbishop, the beautiful editor and an unholy row

On the afternoon of April 30, Harry Coen, the acting Editor of the *Catholic Herald*, was suffering an editor's worst nightmare. The paper was due to go to press in three hours, his star writer hadn't filed her column and he was looking at a blank space on his main features page.

When the column eventually arrived, its content was explosive. Alice Thomas Ellis had written a fierce philippic on the reputation of an archbishop who had been one of the most prominent liberal churchmen in Britain, the late Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock. She accused him of diluting the Catholic faith and blamed him for declining church attendances in Liverpool. Mr Coen, a veteran of *The Sunday Times* and *The Sunday Telegraph*, a cradle Catholic who was doing the job as a favour but was unversed in Catholic politics, knew he had a hot property.

His understanding was that Ms Thomas Ellis was leaving the paper. Why not let her go out with all guns blazing? He gave the piece a Fleet Street headline — "My War against Worlock" — and set the presses rolling.

We can only guess what might have happened if Cristina Odone, the Editor on a sabbatical, had been in the chair. Understanding the sensitivities of the Roman Catholic Church and the subtle and unsavoury influences put in play on editors who encourage dissent, she would probably have salvaged the article by turning it into a more generalised polemic and cut the personal attack on Worlock.

Once the *Catholic Herald* was published, there was an outcry. Mr Coen quickly found that the politics of Fleet Street are gentler compared with the Machiavellian politics of the Catholic Church. The *Herald* is sold at the back of churches and the clergy can influence sales



PAPER ROUND Brian MacArthur

— downwards as well as upwards.

A week later he signed a long, front-page article apologising unreservedly for the "personal distress and sorrow" caused by Ms Thomas Ellis. He also published a long article defending Worlock's record as well as a letter to the Editor from Otto Herschman, his managing director, saying that the article

was in "extremely bad taste" and that Ms Thomas Ellis had failed to conform to the ideal of truth in charity.

The furor presented Fleet Street with four or five ingredients of a good story. As a *Daily Mail* headline enumerated them yesterday, they were: a beautiful woman (Ms Odone); a left-wing archbishop (Worlock); an "unholy row"; the Pope

(who always sells papers) — and a perception among non-Catholics of an authoritarian Church.

Yet it has been on the high-profile Odone, who submitted her resignation before the article appeared, that most attention has focused. According to Paul Johnson, one of the fundamentalist Catholics she invited into the paper, she is "brilliant and beautiful". The *Guardian* describes the "Frosty-ish huskiness" of her voice.

She has widened the editorial appeal of the *Catholic Herald* but also attracted attention with the sort of forthright comments that many don't expect from Catholic women — "I'd love to have sex 9,000 times a day with 6,000 people". Ms Odone might well have edited Ms Thomas Ellis's article but she says that she would not have apologised even if she hadn't. The paper should have stood by its columnist and not lost its nerve.

Mr Coen remains bewildered by the scale of the row and now believes that enforced subservience to the Catholic hierarchy is a constraint on press freedom. As for Ms Odone, her advice to her successor is defiant: "Stick to your guns. Remember you're not just an organ of the Church but a small Fleet Street paper. Don't keep out of mischief, never apologise."

As *The Sun* discovered after the Hillsborough disaster, editors up and down the country are not immune to the Catholic faithful, at their peril. That peril, however, pinpoints the crucial point raised by the journalism of Ms Thomas Ellis. Another of the traditionalist Catholics that Ms Odone encouraged was the author Piers Paul Read. He sees Ms Thomas Ellis as a witty, acerbic writer who had a legitimate viewpoint. "If writers think they are going to upset bishops, particularly when some are so thin-skinned," he says, "Catholic journalism becomes impossible."



Odone: "Don't keep out of mischief. Never apologise"

Robin Wight on why carmakers may be slashing their TV spending

DO you know how many television car advertisements you have seen in the past 12 months? If you are typical (and clearly a *Times* reader is far from typical) you would have seen 702 spots. That is at least six hours of car advertisements a year, taken at a single sitting.

Or to approach it from the car manufacturers themselves, the Renault Clio, the fifth biggest advertiser, actually spent more on advertising last year than mighty British Airways. But did you really "see" all this advertising?

Research confirms what common sense predicts: there is a vast difference between the actual visibility of these media explosions.

Last year, for example, a French study on car advertisers showed that the same advertising budgets produced visibility scores ranging from 65 per cent to 15 per cent: a difference of four times the impact on the same budget. Hence the attention-grabbing motorway signs that can cost, if rumour of the forthcoming Volvo commercial is to be believed, as much to produce per second as 30 minutes of normal television output.

Vauxhall's Vectra, too, had the special effects computers working (and charging) overtime. And more recently, the Peugeot 406 launch, following the precedent of the burning sugar cane fields of a previous Peugeot launch, seemed more like a nicely shot pop video than a car commercial. For all these stylish investments I cannot, to coin a phrase, believe it's not clutter.

It is one reason why BMW chose to launch its Z3 convertible by placing it on view in the James Bond *Goldeneye* film. Probably the most effective car launch in 1995, it had nothing to do with an advertising agency (and I write as BMW's advertising agent for 17 years).

The fact is, the car launch is looking

Big budget TV ads fail to deliver

rather like the overblown privatisation bonanzas of the 1980s when Sid spent on advertising at five times the level of today's Railtrack.

Does car advertising have to be so expensive? BMW's recent 5 Series launch actually spent less than the launch of the Fiat Brava. Compare that with the 26 Opportunities To See (OTS) the Vectra commercial for 96 per cent of the population. A luckless 10 per cent of the population will have seen the advertisement 47 times, making the trench warfare of the First World War seem like a surgical strike.

And where can you put all this television advertising? Car advertisers, not unreasonably, refuse to share breaks with rival brands. There are only eight quality breaks of prime time every night and there are 48 car brands trying to fill them. Little wonder that TV advertising rates are forced by this demand to rise four times faster than the RPI.

Once upon a time, car companies draped young ladies over the bonnets of new models to gain attention, until it was deemed grotesque. Is the advertising warfare not in danger of becoming grotesque, too? Lord Rutherford, who split the atom on a shoestring at Cambridge, had as his battle cry "We haven't any money, so we've got to think". In car advertising, too much

money seems to be deployed with too little thought, for all the polished artistry of the executions.

My favourite advert of 1995 was a Volkswagen commercial that boasted that the production costs of the commercial were less than the servicing cost of the Volkswagen. However modest the production budget, the idea itself was big.

There is a lesson for all of us here. Calling in talented directors, such as Tony Kaye or Gerard de Thame, to buff up a flat idea is not the answer. As Volkswagen illustrated, it is the size of the idea and not the size of the production or media budget that makes an advert stand out.

How long can Volvo manage to spend £530 on advertising each car, and Audi £405, when BMW is able to get by on a modest £145? I expect a culling of media and production budgets before too long.

In the search for bold ideas, my friends at EURO RSCG have come up with an interesting technique. It is called "window shopping". Shortly before they pitched against Butterfield Day Devlin Hockney for the BT business account, some of their people were allegedly spotted looking into the ground floor studio of BDDH, perhaps trying to see what bright ideas the rival agency were brewing up. I am sure it was a case of mistaken identity, as EURO RSCG are known for their old-fashioned sense of fair play. In any event, nothing was gained by the process as BDDH held on to this flagship account. However, agencies with ground floor studios, such as M&C Saatchi, AMV and indeed my own, WCRS, may be suffering from this syndrome. I have certainly ordered a blinds-down policy. Window shoppers should stick to Bond Street.

● Robin Wight is chairman of WCRS

conference confidence

The art and science of face to face persuasion, 24 hours a day.

Call: 0171 821 3630 - day or night
http://www.presentation.co.uk

PRESENTATION COMPANY

ARTS 36-38

The South Bank adds up its bid for lottery cash

HOMES 45

Timeshare sellers are trying to beat tough EU laws

SPORT 46-52

Football's unsung heroes honoured by Sir Bobby

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 50,51

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996

Public is likely to get more shares in Railtrack

By Christine Buckley

STRONG demand for Railtrack shares is likely to result in an increased allocation of stock, with more than 30 per cent of the issue going to members of the public.

The offer for the sale of Britain's track and signalling network closes at noon today in the UK with early indications showing substantial interest from potential investors. Among professional institutional investors the offer is thought to be four times subscribed.

A 30 per cent slice of the shares had been intended for private investors but it is believed that will be increased because registrations at share shops have been higher than expected. International investors have until the end of the week to apply.

The shares will be priced on Monday when trading will begin. A price of around 390p or above is anticipated — valuing the company at about £1.95 billion — compared with initial thoughts of 350p-390p.

The greater than expected interest among small shareholders has been attributed to the package of sweeteners offered by the Government and the growing belief that risk factors have been overplayed.

Nigel Hawkins, analyst at Yamachi, said: "Railtrack offers a good, solid investment, with the prospect of dividend growth of about 7 per cent."

More than 200,000 applications for shares have been received and a last minute surge is expected as share shops send in their final batches of applications. Ordinary investors will pay for shares in two instalments, with the first 190p a share tranche being offered at a 10p discount to City institutions for investors who registered for applications in advance. These investors will receive a further 15p discount on the second payment on June 3 next year.

Shareholders still on the register in September this year will share £69 million of dividends for the financial year to the end of March this year, when the company was still in state ownership.

Pennington, page 29



Governor's view: Eddie George, who believes that the British economy will not be damaged by remaining outside a single European currency

Bank limits Clarke's scope for rate cuts

By Janet Bush
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Bank of England yesterday voiced its opposition to any further cuts in interest rates but appeared relaxed about rates remaining where they are for the time being.

In its latest quarterly Inflation Report, the Bank was a little more cautious than it was three months ago although even Mervyn King, the Bank's chief economist, acknowledged that there had been little change. The Bank said that it was now judged marginally more likely than not that underlying inflation would be above the Government's 2.5

per cent target in two years' time, given no change in interest rates. In February, it thought the target would, on balance, be hit.

Mr King made it clear that the Bank regarded the last cut in base rates in March as an insurance premium against short-term risks of the economy faltering as manufacturers struggle with the twin problems of huge stock levels and weaker exports to Europe.

He said: "There is a case for continuing to pay the premium for a short period. But it is not easy to see a case for increasing the premium." In other words, the Bank would not be happy if the Chancellor were to push for another cut in

rates below 6 per cent but is content to leave rates where they are for now.

The Bank believes that inflation will drop over the rest of this year to under the 2.5 per cent, the upper limit of the Government's target of 2.5 per cent or less. However, inflation is then expected to pick up, reaching 2.5 per cent or perhaps just above that level in two years' time.

Whether, and at what stage, the Bank starts to counsel higher rates will depend on whether the stocks situation and economic developments in Europe continue to act as a brake on the British economy and price pressures. On balance, the Bank appears to

believe that neither factor will be long-lived and serious. Thereafter, it said that the risks tend towards higher inflation, with the Bank expecting the engine of growth to switch from exports to consumer spending.

The Bank referred to the current economic situation in which manufacturing output has been stagnant but consumer spending appears to be picking up with a warning about the dangers of making policy against such a mixed backdrop. The Inflation Report said: "It was precisely at this juncture — with apparent short-term weakness in some sectors masking signs of more buoyant future activity — that

policy mistakes tended to be made in the past."

The City reacted calmly to the Bank's latest analysis of inflation. Some said that, in spite of the report's acknowledgement of short-term risks to the recovery, it would now be harder for the Chancellor to push through another rate cut.

Andrew Cates, of UBS Ltd, said base rates were more than likely to remain at their current 6 per cent but that there was still a possibility that the Chancellor might try for another cut if manufacturing continues to be weak. "Yesterday's report, however, means that this would almost certainly be without the Bank's blessing," he said.

Worry over fall in labour market

By Philip Bassett
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

DECLINES in Britain's workforce may be hitting longer-term economic growth, the Treasury believes, and the change may reflect the impact of extensive job-cutting.

The Government will today issue the latest unemployment figures, with Whitehall and the City expecting a continuing monthly fall in unemployment of about 10,000 — although building employers yesterday said 30,000 construction jobs may go this year.

Ministers will claim today that declining unemployment indicates the success of government economic policies. Last month's 26,000 fall in seasonally adjusted claimant unemployment took the total of people jobless and claiming benefit, before today's figures, to just under 2.2 million.

Private estimates by Treasury officials about the shrinking workforce suggest that Britain's labour market performance may be hitting economic growth prospects.

After examining new figures on the size of the workforce, and official projections for it, Treasury officials believe that the fifth successive annual fall in the total labour force may imply a reduction in the longer-term trend growth of the economy.

The Treasury currently puts trend economic growth at about 2.5 per cent. While not yet putting any value on the effect of a declining workforce, Treasury officials believe that continuing falls in Britain's labour force may now be affecting growth.

Although the decline in the workforce reflects a range of factors, companies shedding jobs, especially among older men, is likely to be a central reason. The rise in jobs taken by women is not yet compensating for it.

Contrasting trends, page 31

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET TRENDS

FT-SE 100	3758.7	(+20.5)
Yield	3.59%	
FT-SE All share	1890.25	(+7.41)
Nikkei	8197.02	(+128.23)
New York		
Dow Jones	8811.78	(+29.18)
S&P Composite	664.25	(+3.94)

THE RATE

Federal Funds	5 1/8%	(5 1/8%)
Long Bond	8 1/8%	(8 1/8%)
Yield	5.85%	(5.85%)

LONDON MONEY

3-month interbank	6 1/8%	(6 1/8%)
Libor long cut	100%	(100%)

STERLING

New York	1.6181*	(1.6150)
London		
\$	1.6153	(1.6141)
DM	2.3297	(2.3220)
FF	1.6796	(1.6833)
SP	1.6896	(1.6900)
Yen	160.35	(158.94)
£ index	84.7	(84.4)

\$\$\$ \$

London		
DM	1.6338*	(1.6329)
FF	8.1955*	(8.1850)
Yen	105.78*	(104.95)
£ index	96.7	(96.4)

Tokyo close Yen 105.05

BRIT 15-day (A&A)

	918.55	(918.60)
--	--------	----------

London close

	8991.75	(8991.35)
--	---------	-----------

* denotes midday trading price

Power cut

PowerGen yesterday abandoned hopes of relaunching a bid for Midlands Electricity, the company it was stopped from buying by the Government. PowerGen sold its 21 per cent stake yesterday, clearing the way for the third takeover of a regional company by American buyers. Page 29

Warning

Shares in Courtaulds Textiles fell 45p to 373p after the Marks & Spencer underwear supplier and owner of the Gossard, Aristoc and Berlei brands gave a profits warning. Page 32

George foresees euro 'tensions'

By Our Economics Correspondent

EDDIE GEORGE, Governor of the Bank of England, yesterday rejected the argument that Britain would be damaged if it remained outside a single European currency, and warned that monetary union would make it difficult to tackle the challenge of high unemployment.

In a keynote lecture to an academic audience in Milan, Mr George laid out the arguments in favour of a single currency and then appeared to demolish most of them in more detail and in stronger

terms than he has done before.

The Governor acknowledged fears that, outside a single currency, Britain may be asked to pay a higher-risk premium on its bonds and perhaps lose out on foreign inward investment. But he said: "There is no reason that I can see why we should be significantly damaged in these ways so long as we persist in responsible macro-economic policies directed to stability."

But Mr George also went further than he has in previous speeches in casting doubt

on whether true economic convergence can be achieved — and then sustained in order to make a single currency a success — given high and varying levels of unemployment in Europe. He said that more and more member states believe that high unemployment is partly due to structural features of their economies and are embarking, for example, on programmes of deregulation and cutting back social provision, which will inevitably impact on European economies.

Some flexibility in setting budgets, interest and exchange rates would be helpful in trying to achieve these changes, Mr George went on. Without such flexibility the only way of tackling unemployment would be through cuts in wages, which would be extraordinarily difficult to achieve.

"It is not difficult in those circumstances to envisage tensions arising for the single monetary policy," he said. "It is in this sense one can envisage political disharmony if the economics of Europe go wrong."

General Accident cheers insurers

By Marianne Curphey

INSURANCE shares rose yesterday after General Accident announced healthy sales of life products and an increase in commercial and personal motor rates. The City took this as a sign that insurance rates had reached the bottom of the cycle and were starting to rise again.

GA shares gained 19p, to 654p, and shares in Royal Insurance, Sun Alliance and Guardian all rose several pence. Prices were supported by merger and takeover speculation and relief that GA's losses were not as bad as had been expected.

Weather losses in the UK and North America halved GA's first-quarter profits. Forecasts at the bottom of the range had put GA's pre-tax operating profit at about £50 million. In fact, it was £55 million, down from £112 million in the same quarter, to March 31, last year.

Bob Scott, chief executive, said that life and pensions sales had been healthy after the acquisition of Provident Mutual. This had helped to



Scott: rates increased

counter worldwide bad-weather claims of £70 million. GA put up commercial motor rates by 6 per cent in February and personal rates by 4 per cent in April. Mr Scott said: "It looks as though these rates will stick, but it is too early to say whether we will introduce further increases. We are looking to household and contents insurance for better returns."

UK underwriting fell to an £11 million loss (£41 million profit).

Tempus, page 30

Halifax chief heads pay league

By Anne Ashworth

MIKE BLACKBURN, chief executive of the Halifax Building Society, saw his earnings rise from £378,603 to £404,793 in 1995, according to the society's report and accounts. The sum included a £78,750 bonus. Mr Blackburn is now the best-paid chief in the building societies, a position formerly held by Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of Cheltenham & Gloucester, now part of Lloyds Bank. In 1994, C&G's last full year of independence, he was paid £354,462.

Jon Foulds, Halifax's part-time chairman, received a 25 per cent rise, from £180,138 to £225,233. His pay has risen by more than 40 per cent over two years, from £160,173 in 1993.

A Halifax spokesman said that Mr Foulds, who is supposed to work 180 days a year, is now working almost full-time as the society, now merged with the Leeds, prepares itself for its £10 billion flotation next year.

Societies' conference, page 28

Deal heralds BCCI payout

By Patricia Tehan, Banking Correspondent

A \$1.8 billion compensation deal from the Abu Dhabi authorities, which owned 77 per cent of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International, has been signed, paving the way for the first payment to creditors by liquidators this summer.

Adil Elias, who sits on the English creditors' committee, said he hoped a dividend of at least 20p in the pound would be made as soon as possible, although the final amount will be subject to court decisions.

Dr Elias said: "This money should go to the suffering victims. We have been working for five years for this day and want to see the money as soon as possible."

The liquidators had originally hoped to make a payment by next month, but priority claims by several groups of creditors may delay the payment until later in the summer.

The liquidators, of Deloitte & Touche, refused to be drawn on when a payment would be

made or how much would be paid, saying: "The amount of the first dividend will be subject to court decisions which are currently in progress."

An Abu Dhabi spokesman said: "We welcome the completion of the \$1.8 billion agreement with the global liquidators. Our principal concern throughout this affair has been that depositors and creditors of BCCI are treated fairly."

He added: "The majority shareholders have consistently maintained that agreement with the liquidators is the only outcome capable of providing a significant return for creditors. We are pleased that our joint efforts in opposing attacks, that only served to delay payment, have been ultimately successful."

Under the agreement with the Abu Dhabi, the first payment of \$1.53 billion was paid to the liquidators yesterday and \$250 million into escrow to be released later.

CALL US if you need to get

to the AIRPORT in 25 minutes.

A BIRTHDAY PRESENT

for your wife. A reservation for LUNCH

at BIBENDUM. A BOX at the

OPERA. And a conference organised

for 40 in ROME.

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
18-21 Jeremy Street, St James's, London SW1V 6HP

Who else offers a 100% three-month refund guarantee on permanent Secretaries, PAs and Administrators? Or a 15 minute call back on Temp bookings? For exceptional people phone an exceptional company on 0171 734 7341.

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

New orders in the private housing sector in the first three months of this year were unchanged compared with the previous quarter, but 17 per cent lower than the year before. Public housing orders were 27 per cent higher than the previous quarter, and 3 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The construction industry said that the official figures exaggerated future trends in new work activity, with much of the rise attributable to a small number of large orders, a factor accepted by the DOE.

HOWARD Davies, Bank of England deputy governor, said last night at a British-American Chamber of Commerce dinner in London, that the UK cannot ignore its "most important non-European relationship" with the US (Patricia Tehan writes).

Real and financial trends are closely aligned, he said, adding: "The US economy began to pick up slightly earlier than ours, turning in 1991, rather than early in 1992. But since then the profile has been remarkably similar, both in terms of real growth, and interest rates." He said this parallel experience contrasted with continental Europe.



FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

that carries special importance because the test for monetary union will be applied to performance in 1997. The founding members of EMU are due to be chosen on this basis early in 1998 before the euro's planned birthday on January 1, 1999.

The present stagnation means that only three countries – Luxembourg, Ireland and Denmark – are likely to meet the Maastricht criteria

tion, should be valued at £6 billion — its rate at privatisation. Transco believes it is worth £17 billion, while Ofgas said it was worth £9-£11 billion.

British Gas shares fell 6p to 195p with City doubts growing that the demerger of Transco and British Gas Trading, will be able to go ahead if the row between the company and the regulator goes to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The lease will be surrendered to the Coal Authority after equipment has been salvaged. The administrators have told Mick Morton, the mine's manager, that any last-minute buyer, thought unlikely, would be considered.

□ An auction is under way for three more former Coal Investments pits, Silverdale, Annesley Bentinck and Markham Main.

THE Stock Exchange has signed an agreement with the US Securities and Exchange Commission under which they will pool regulatory information when shares are traded on both markets. The new agreement replaces a previously informal arrangement under which information was shared. Under the revised arrangements, the SEC and Exchange will notify one another if either takes steps to suspend a company's shares from trading for one day or more, delists a company's shares, or takes any other public action against an issuer.

TOURIST RATES

Bank Buys	Bank Sells	Italy Lira	3485.00	2310.00
Austria Sch	1.39	Japan Yen	173.30	157.40
Austria Sch	1.39	Malta	0.553	0.55
Belgium F	70.71	Netherlands Gld	2.749	2.5
Belgium F	15.25	New Zealand \$	2.35	2.7
Canada \$	2.17	Norway Kr	10.56	9.1
Cyprus Cyp2	0.759	Portugal Esc	249.50	291.40
Denmark K	9.58	S Africa Rnd	7.08	7.08
Finland Mk	7.76	Spain Ptas	200.50	107.10
France Fr	8.35	Sweden Kr	10.87	10.87
Germany DM	2.48	Switzerland Fr	2.03	1.8
Greece Dr	385.00	Turkey Lira	120094.	11269.00
Hong Kong \$	12.36	USA \$	1.612	1.48
Ireland Pt	1.02			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. All other rates apply to travelers' cheques. Rates are in pence of sterling.

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION**
in Administrative Receivership
Registered Number 260
NOTICE IS HEREBY
given that the Insolvency
Practitioner, pursuant to the
Insolvency Act 1986, the
general meeting of the creditors of the above
company will be held at the
Leopard Centre, 1000
Floor, London WC2E 9LF
May 1996 at 10.00 am
pursuant of having a right
to elect the Insolvency
Practitioner of any
explanation that is
given to the Admin
Receivers Creditors
of the company are
entitled to attend or be
represented. Please note that
it is entitled to vote only if
it is a creditor of the company.
Receivers at Leopard Centre
not later than 12.00 noon
May 1996 details in writing
to the Insolvency Practitioner
company, and the claim is
duly admitted under the
sloans of the Insolvency
Practitioner and there has
been no objection with
the Insolvency Practitioner.

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION**
in Administrative Receivership
Registered Number 260
NOTICE IS HEREBY
given that the Insolvency
Practitioner, pursuant to the
Insolvency Act 1986, the
general meeting of the creditors of the above
company will be held at the
Leopard Centre, 1000
Floor, London WC2E 9LF
May 1996 at 10.00 am
pursuant of having a right
to elect the Insolvency
Practitioner of any
explanation that is
given to the Admin
Receivers Creditors
of the company are
entitled to attend or be
represented. Please note that
it is entitled to vote only if
it is a creditor of the company.
Receivers at Leopard Centre
not later than 12.00 noon
Mar 1996 details in writing
to the Insolvency Practitioner
company, and the claim is
duly admitted under the
claim of the Insolvency
Practitioner and there has
been no objection with
the Insolvency Practitioner.

Receives any money or
other benefits to be
dated 10th May 1996
D L GOODMAN, FCA
Joint Administrative Sec

**RESOLVING ACT IN
THE HIGH COURT
OF JUSTICE**
- N 259 of 1996
IN BANKRUPTCY
Re: Janine Angela Lee
Creditors' Voluntary
Arrangement of Flat 1
James Square, London
EC2A 4PU
Re: Apple Arts 00178, Rem
and of C/O Bureau Fi
ever Chase-Sutton 1205,
Leam, occupation

Notice is hereby given,
and to section 301 of the
Insolvency Act 1986 that
Creditors of the above
company are to hold a
creditors' meeting at the
offices Taylor, Francis &
Carmichael, 80 Victoria S
Square, Westminster, London
W1P 3JF on 11th May 1996
at 11.00 a.m. for the
purpose of appointing a cr
ditors' representative

F is F&A, Trustee.

**FIRST CLASS HOME
(EVANS ABOVE LIST)**
Registered number: 23
Trading name: Ashton
Nursing Home Nature &
near: Nursing Home Care
Classification: 47, Date of
start of administrative re-
2 May 1995 Name of
appointing the admini-
strative National West
Bank plc Joint Admini-
strative Geoffrey Stuart
and Nigel Kenneth Sam-
son (holder no 9264) of
of RDO Stoy Hayward, 1
Street, London W1M 1DA

1

**THE INSOLVENCY RULES
LOCAL CREDITORS
SERVICES LIMITED**

An Receivership
NOTICE IS HEREBY
given that the Receiv-
ership Rules 1986, that
of the Creditors of Local
Creditors Services Limited will be
applied to the Receiv-
ership of the company
situated at 110 Wind-
ward Lane, HBN on
May 1996 at 11.00 o'clock
morning. The Receiver
will be presented to the
court for the purpose of
a commitment to re-
spond to creditors.

Each creditor will be
entitled to vote at the
meeting on the basis
of the amount of the
debt due to him by the com-
pany given in the attach-
ment of the Rules of the
receivership of Thomas G
Storia Street, Windsor S
later than 12.00 noon on
the day before the start
of the meeting. The
debts admitted in ac-
cording to the Insolv-
ency Rules 1986.


Creditors may vote
person or by proxy at
the meeting.

[illegible]

REGINA LUNA
Registered Number
Former Company Name
Form 1 General Information
Trading Name RJK Food
General Nature of Business
Establishment Trade Date
06. Date of Appointment
Administrative Record
May 1996 Name
Sponsoring the Administration
Receivables, investments
Pension Trustees
Trusts, Floating Charge
Security 9 October 1996
of persons appointed.
ning and I P Phillips
Buchler Phillips, 84
Street, London W1X 9
Holder Nos 6477 and

[illegible][illegible]

MEETING TO THE GREYHOUND
The above named person will be
held on 25th May 1996 at 4.30
Chorchester Square, London
EC4M 6BN at 12.00 noon for the
purposes mentioned in section 96
of the act and the said Act
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
That the said person has been
named to the said requirement
Dorington PIPA, of 42
Chorchester Square,
London EC4M 6BN, as acting
in accordance to act as
the qualified Insolvency Practitioner
pursuant to Section 96 of the
Insolvency Act 1986, to the said
creditors, free of charge, with
such information concerning the
said person as may be
reasonably require.
DATED 2nd day of May 1996
DORINGTON PIPA, SO SIGNED
D. CAREY, DIRECTOR



**Buying by
Sedgwick
'at an end'**

ANNOUNCING
three-month period
of £6.3 million
million for the
months in March
Tarrant, finance director
Sedgwick, the
broker, said it was
planning further
deals in the

most other business
 insurance
 (Maritime)
 protect
 income from
 and loss from 1 per
 cent to 2 million
 in 1999 million.
 changed. Georgia
 died a victim
 financial services
 as for the year
 up for about
 1999.

Allied Dom

[illegible]

1

4 Park Place St James's London SW1A

*Since 1985 people of quality
have been introduced through our exclusive
social events and superb introduction service.
We invite membership to complement
almost certainly the largest
selection of unattached professionals
in the UK.*

- *Personal introductions*
- *Social events*

The
EXECUTIVE
Club

<http://www.executive.co.uk/club>

0171 499 8833

Join us for a cocktail party at The Savoy in The Strand. We are a group of unattached professionals who enjoy meeting like-minded unattached professionals in relaxed surroundings.

You are invited to join us, come on your own, you will be made most welcome.

You are invited to join us, come on your own, you will be made most welcome.

All our parties are hosted. We are a selective membership organisation.

Or join us for any of our other 42 events in May.

★ *Social membership £125 for 2 years*

ASSOCIATE OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE UK

York Leeds Edinburgh Nottingham Dublin London
Aberdeen, Ashford, Avon, Bristol, Brighton, Bradford, Bucks, Cambridge, Cardiff, Cheshire, Chichester, Derby, Devon, Exeter, Glasgow,
Guildford, Harrogate, Hertford, Hull, Kent, Leicester, Maidstone, Manchester, Milton Keynes, Newport, Northampton, Northampton, Oxford
Perth, Peterborough, Rugby, Sheffield, Sussex, Swindon, Truro, Tunbridge Wells, West Midlands, Worcester, Worthing

فلنأخذ من الأصل

□ Investors await Allied's exit from brewing □ Railtrack's price could be raised □ Bank comfort for Clarke and Brown

Time gentlemen, please

□ BREWING is the glue that sticks Allied Domecq together, and horribly sticky and enduring it is turning out to be. There is little to be done until the appropriate solvent comes to hand.

Tony Hales, chief executive, ended his briefing to the City yesterday on a note of genuine contrition, accepting that shareholders have had to wait too long for a decent payback on their investment. The main interest was over the future of Carlsberg-Tetley, the three-year-old brewing joint venture with the Danes, the 20 per cent profits fall having been presaged at the annual meeting in February. A pity, therefore, that the board had so little to say.

Carlsberg-Tetley has been on the auction block for the best part of a year with Bass now clearly identified as buyer, so the lack of solid progress is disturbing. There are two snags. Allied's pub estate is locked into a supply agreement at high prices, while the emergence of Bass as Britain's biggest brewer again with almost two fifths of the market raises competition problems.

The supply deal limits further improvements Allied can make on its retail estate. The company would dearly love to unload more "community pubs" — for which read low-profit boozers — and concentrate on branded outlets, now a third of the estate,

but not until the destination of all that expensive beer is settled.

The worry is that Allied, for reasons beyond its control such as the refusal of the Danes to accept the necessary loss, may have left it too long. The venture is in the books at £300 million, but this price might have to come down to compensate for the ending of the supply deal.

Last year, when a sale was first mooted, it was assumed the competition authorities would allow it through in some form after Scottish Courage was allowed to move ahead as Britain's biggest brewer. But since then rulings on competition have become more capricious, most notably in the electricity industry. The temptation must be overpowering, this close to an election, to kick any deal involving the closure of breweries and the loss of jobs to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Until Carlsberg-Tetley is sorted, it is hard to focus on the merits of the rest of Allied Domecq. Mr Hales declined to say how many drinks brands would have to be sold, or even how many Allied has on its

books. The concentration of marketing spend on a core 15 or so would allow huge cost savings, probably in excess of the £55 million indicated yesterday.

The shares sell on an average market rating of 15 times this year's earnings, which suggests some upside once the glue is finally unstuck. Allied has to get it right, or Sir Christopher Hogg, the new chairman, will take appropriate action at boardroom level. An exit from brewing at a low price could always be blamed on previous management, in the cynical way that these things tend to be done. The question is the timing of that exit.

Deferring to the stages

□ WHEN the man at the ticket agency warns you that seats are in danger of running out, he may not be acting out of concern for your evening's entertainment. Likewise, those sources close to the Railtrack float who talked of overwhelming City interest the day before the books close to the public might have had their own

PENNINGTON



interests to promote. Railtrack has been one of the most political state sell-offs ever, and neither of the main parties has come out of the affair covered in much glory. Labour has fudged and nudged, so driving the price down and depriving the Exchequer of income, but said little of worth, capping it all with wildly misleading leaks of a couple of brokers' surveys.

These, it has been suggested by the Opposition, advise that the float be shunned. Quite the opposite, which is why the City has bought in so heavily. Lloyds and NatWest merely warned long-term holders of the possible damage from Labour policy.

Ministers have responded by pricing the float too low, with

some £69 million of unwarranted extra dividends thrown in as a panic measure. The result will probably be a last-minute rush of forms from share shops this morning and 40 per cent or more of the shares going to the public.

The City thus deprived, and upwards pressure put on the shares once they start trading, the issue can be judged a success as these things go. But here is a suggestion. If there is such an appetite for Railtrack shares, why not break with precedent and confound the critics by pricing the shares well above the indicative 350p to 390p range? The reason, alas, is that the last thing ministers want is a few hundred thousand small investors deprived of the staggering profits they regard as their right.

A clear run to the polls

□ WE ARE now so near to an election that the Bank of England's long-range forecast of inflation is equally relevant to Gordon Brown, Chancellor in

waiting perhaps, as to Kenneth Clarke. The latter gets the best part of the deal initially, inflation expected to drift down below 2.5 per cent over the next year and stay there. He will therefore enjoy a benign run of inflation figures right up until any last-gasp election. Thereafter, the Bank expects inflation to start rising gently again to perhaps above 2.5 per cent in the first quarter of 1998, on the assumption that interest rates remain at their current level.

If Mr Clarke manages to hang on without a rate rise until the election, which seems quite possible, Mr Brown would surely be left with that task. But whichever man holds the keys to Number 11, raising rates in the first few months of a new term is never too painful. There is plenty of time for forgiveness later.

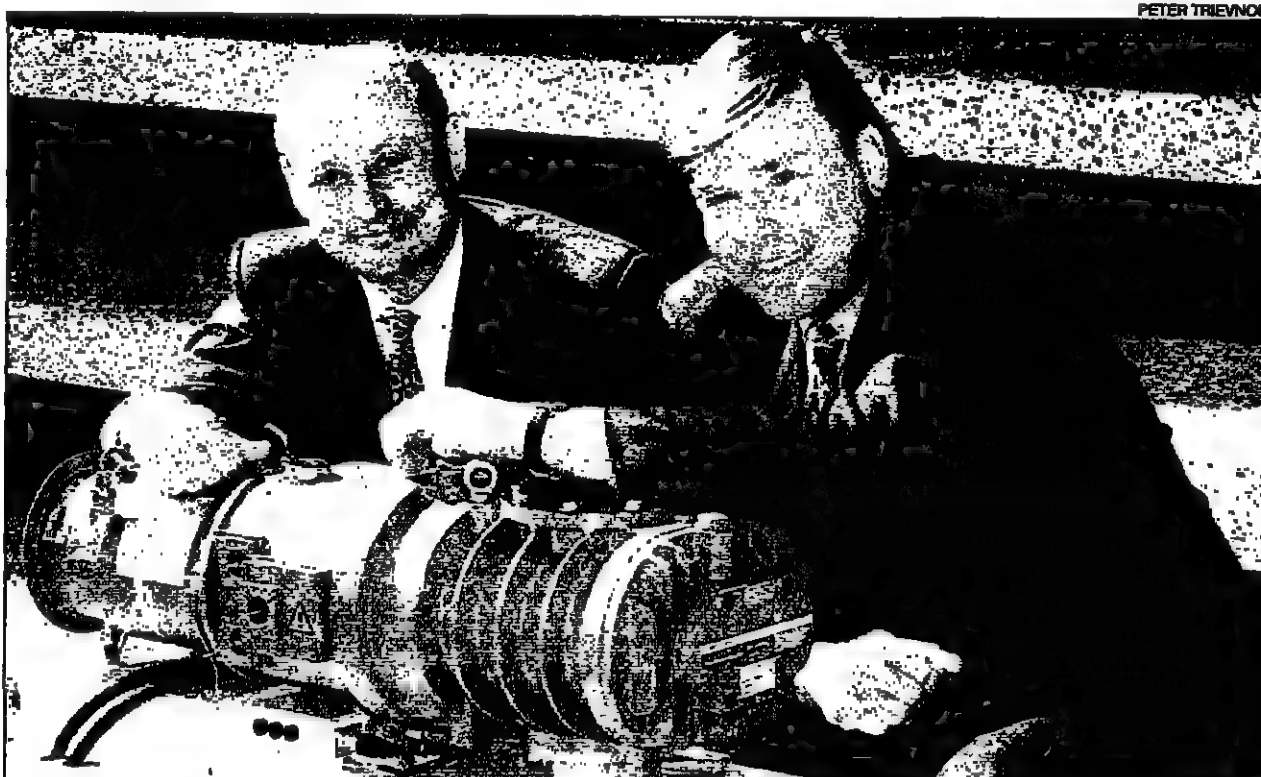
With the economist's peculiar ability to detect a dark cloud within every silver lining, the Bank's latest quarterly report finds a short-term risk from weak export markets and excessive stocks. But subsequent growth in investment and consumer spending might put up-

ward pressure on inflation later. This is not to suggest a dramatic surge in inflation into the start of the next electoral term. In inimitable Bank-speak, the report says it is "marginally more likely than not" that inflation will be above target. Any incoming Chancellor can be assured that any rate rise he has to make will be modest. It may even establish an immediate reputation for financial probity.

Jobs for the boys

□ SHOWING an admirable willingness to bite the hand that feeds him, Denis MacShane is today enjoying the centenary celebrations of the Engineering Employers' Federation at the House of Commons just hours after calling for the EEF's disappearance. The Labour MP for Rotherham has put down a ten-minute rule Bill for a radical cull of employers' bodies.

He accuses them, quite rightly, of "permanent column-inch warfare": the CBI says this, the Institute of Directors says the opposite, and so on. The EEF and the CBI were in merger talks a few years ago to produce one voice for manufacturing, but nothing came of it. But why does one suspect that there are too many vested interests, not to say lucrative jobs, in the system as it now stands?



Danny Rosenkranz, left, BOC chief executive, and Tony Isaac, finance director, at the firm's plant in Surrey

BOC shrugs off problems in US with 12% advance

By PAUL DURMAN

BOC GROUP, the industrial gases and healthcare group, has shrugged off problems in the US healthcare market to report a 12 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £217.4 million.

Danny Rosenkranz, BOC chief executive, said consolidation among US hospitals had hit orders for the anaesthetic machines made by Ohmeda, the group's healthcare arm. The lost US sales were almost entirely to blame for a 9 per cent fall in healthcare profits to £28.4 million.

BOC said that it broadly

maintained its share of the anaesthetic gas market. Ohmeda's best-seller, Forane, now faces strong competition from generic rivals.

Mr Rosenkranz ruled out any sale of the healthcare business: "It is not often appreciated how strong we are around the operating room and, increasingly, around the intensive care unit."

The exception is Delta Biotechnology, a Nottingham firm working on a blood replacement compound that costs BOC about £9 million a year. Mr Rosenkranz said: "The technology has reached a level where it has value. We

are looking to find a way of releasing that value..."

BOC Gases increased its contribution by 10 per cent to £197.8 million, with good results from the North Pacific, Europe, the Americas and South Africa. In the UK, BOC enjoyed strong demand and reduced overheads but Mr Rosenkranz acknowledged "slight concern" about prospects for liquid oxygen and liquid nitrogen in the US.

Gas sales rose to £1.38 billion, out of a group total of £1.98 billion for the six months to March 1996. Earnings per share for the half increased by 11 per cent to 27.85p.

The contribution from the vacuum and distribution division jumped by 39 per cent to £43.6 million, led by Edwards, the vacuum pump business, whose products are used in the manufacture of semiconductors.

Edwards has just won its largest order from a Korean semiconductor manufacturer, Jeremy Chantry, chemicals analyst at Kleinwort Benson, lifted his full-year profit forecast for BOC from £438 million to £450 million. BOC is paying a second interim dividend of 13.5p a share.

Tempos, page 30

Cantab to raise £25m for R&D

By PAUL DURMAN

CANTAB Pharmaceuticals, the biotechnology company, has announced plans to raise a further £25 million.

It will use the money to continue the development of its proposed treatments for herpes and genital warts, and of its innovative DISC virus technology.

Cantab is not offering its shareholders pre-emption rights over the new shares, largely because of the problems caused by its listing on the Nasdaq market in the US. The venture capitalists that still own about 30 per cent of Cantab are not expected to buy new shares in the issue, which has yet to be priced.

Cantab's first-quarter results showed an increased pre-tax loss of £1.8 million (£1.6 million).

Hongkong Telecom profits rise by 14.3%

By GEORGE SIVELL

HONGKONG TELECOM, 57 per cent owned by Cable and Wireless, has survived the loss of its domestic monopoly, making a net profit of HK\$9.94 billion (£864 million) in the year to March 31, up 14.3 per cent from HK\$8.70 billion and in line with analysts' forecasts.

Brian Smith, chairman of Cable and Wireless, said that C&W had no immediate plans to sell a stake in Hongkong Telecom. He added that China had viewed C&W's recent merger talks with BT as a commercial transaction.

Mr Smith reaffirmed that no further discussions would be held with BT. Speculation is rife in Hong Kong that Chinese or Chinese-backed interests are seeking a stake in Hongkong Telecom before the colony reverts to China in July next year. Turnover for the

year increased to HK\$29.40 billion, from HK\$26.91 billion, and earnings per share rose to 88.8 cents from 78.0 cents. In spite of the loss of its domestic monopoly last year, the company said that total turnover from local telephone services rose 10.9 per cent to HK\$4.07 billion.

Since last July 1, Hongkong Telecom has had competition from New T&T, New World Telecom and Hutchison Telecom on domestic services. Yesterday, Hongkong Telecom welcomed the recent clarification by Hong Kong's Office of Telecommunications Authority on its monopoly on international services, which it holds until 2006.

Hongkong Telecom is to pay a final dividend of 36.9 cents, boosting total dividend for the year to 67.80 cents from the previous year's total 59.3 cents.

PowerGen sells stake in Midlands

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

POWERGEN yesterday abandoned hope of relaunching a bid for Midlands Electricity, the company it was vetoed from buying by the Government, when it sold its 21 per cent stake. This helps to clear the way for the third takeover of a regional company by US buyers.

PowerGen reacted strongly when Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, said its bid — with that of National Power for Southern Electric — could not proceed. The company said it was looking at a judicial challenge to the block. It is no longer expected to follow this path.

PowerGen, which today announces annual results, sold its holding in Midlands to the new bidders for the company — the US utilities General Public Utilities and Cinergy, for £69 million profit.

Buying by Sedgwick 'at an end'

ANNOUNCING better-than-expected pre-tax profits of £45.3 million (£42.7 million) for the three months to March 31, Stuart Tarrant, finance director of Sedgwick, the insurance broker, said it was not planning further purchases after buying a German insurance broker (Marianne Curphey writes).

Income from brokerage and fees rose 1 per cent to £243.2 million. Expenses, at £209 million, were unchanged. Sedgwick predicted a recovery in financial services businesses later this year. Earnings per share were 5.5p (4.9p).

Hodder Headline issues surprise profit warning

By SARAH BAGNALL

SHARES of Hodder Headline fell by nearly 14 per cent yesterday after the publishing group issued a surprise profit warning.

The news came less than a month after the group, which publishes best-selling authors such as Rosamunde Pilcher and John Le Carré, revealed a 30.5 per cent slide in pre-tax profits to £5.7 million in the year to December 31.

Tim Hely Hutchinson, chief executive, warned shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that first-half profits are "expected to be less than half that reported for the comparative period in 1995".



Hely Hutchinson: downbeat

The shares fell 36p to 224p on the news.

The decline in profits is in spite of an expected 15 per cent rise in first-half sales, which

were boosted by the successful launches of several titles, including Ms Pilcher's *Coming Home*. The fall in profits reflects pressure on margins.

Mr Hely Hutchinson added that the split of profits between the two halves is likely to shift further towards the second half.

He said: "Looking ahead, we believe the relative profitability of the first and second halves will prove to have been abnormal in 1994 and 1995 and we expect a stronger weighting towards the second half, not only in 1996 but also, all else being equal, in future years."

Tempos, page 29

Allied Domecq to tighten its belt

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

ALLIED DOMEQ, the troubled drinks company, yesterday promised to focus on branding and cost-saving measures as the company unveiled a 20 per cent fall in half-year profits to £321 million.

But there was no further indication of the fate of Carlsberg-Tetley, the brewing arm joint-owned with Carlsberg, despite speculation that a sale is imminent. Tony Hale, chief executive, said Allied would concentrate on seeing through the restructuring programme, culminating with the closure

of the Warrington brewery in October. Profits at Carlsberg-Tetley rose 14 per cent to £25 million in the half-year, but overall volumes fell 3 per cent.

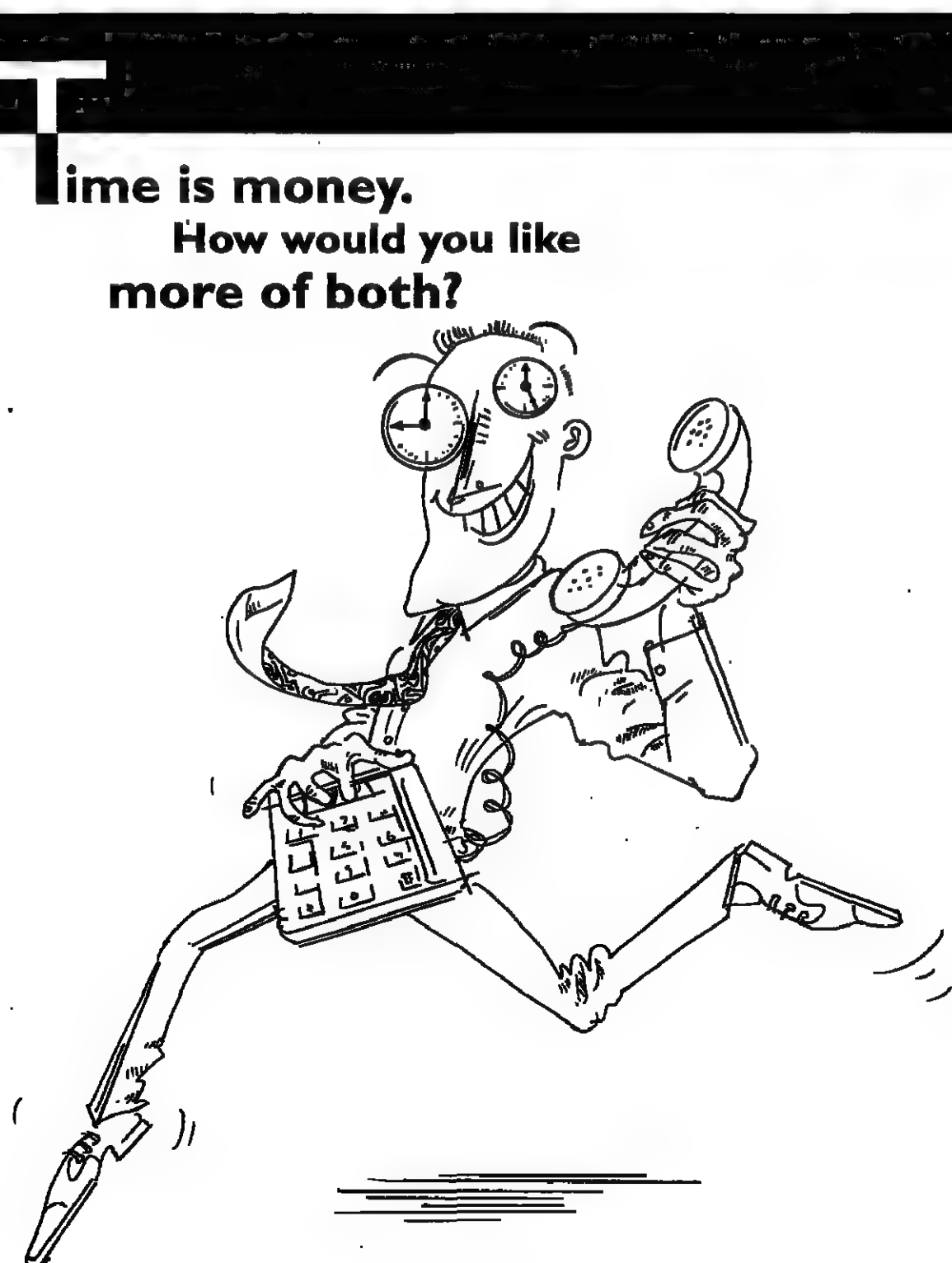
Profits in the spirits and wine division fell 21 per cent to £28 million, while those in the Mexican division doubled in Peso terms, although the December devaluation of the Mexican currency caused sterling profits to fall by £6 million to £26 million.

Allied said it aims to target its spirits portfolio at 15 key brands, including Beefeater gin, Ballantines whisky and

Kahlua, with the marketing spend increasing 5 per cent to £221 million. Profits in the retailing division were 2 per cent ahead at £108 million. The total number of pubs fell by 3 per cent as Allied moved to comply with QFT requirements.

The company said it had saved £12 million through cost cutting in the half-year and expects savings made over the past four years to exceed £50 million next year. An unchanged interim dividend of 9.44p is payable on July 26.

Pennington, this page



Opening a Bank of Scotland Money Market Cheque account could well be your wisest business decision of the year. As well as offering high interest rates and instant access, you also have 20 cheques per month free. You can ring us for a profitable conversation anytime between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday, quoting ref. 8672.

BANK OF SCOTLAND
MONEY MARKET
BUSINESS CHEQUE ACCOUNT

Call now on 0500 828 000

THE
TIMES
CITY
DIARY

Otherwise
engaged

PLENTY of time for happy memories to come flooding back at yesterday's memorial service for David Band, former chief executive at BZW. Caught in terrible London traffic, Band's widow Olivia arrived 20 minutes late at Southwark Cathedral. Many of the City's senior executives mused merrily on what would have been "Bando's" view of the events. One mumbled: "He'd have roared at the idea of all these dealers being kept from their mobile telephones."

On hold

FIDELITY BROKERAGE has been forced to apologise to customers by way of letter, because of a drastic drop in standards of service. In a personal tone, David Pluczkos, president, admits "customers have experienced a quality of service from us that has fallen well short of the high standards we set ourselves". Teething problems with a new computer system has led to "unacceptably long delays" in getting through to staff on the telephone.

Republican star

PETER KIRWAN, editor of *Business Age*, who is currently fighting a ruling over his magazine's £2.2 billion estimate of the Queen's worth, has been spotted dining among staunch republicans. The Common Sense Club, founded by Professor Stephen Haseler, republican polemicist Anthony Holden, and PR consultant Brian Basham invited Kirwan to their recent pow wow at L'Etoile.



"Some of us have reading difficulties"

Fraternity

THE British Ambassador to Paris will welcome Jacques Chirac to a City lunch at the Guildhall today, with 360 bottles of Bolly brought from his younger brother Anthony, executive chairman of Mentendoff & Co. Since 1888, the firm has represented Bollinger in the UK.

Feeling flat

MICHAEL LONGSHAW, managing director of London's Capital Club, is particularly upset over Will Carling's divorce and the rugby captain's less-than-perfect performance on pitch. Last year, Longshaw invested £1,000 in a magnum of champagne, signed by Will and the English team, which he hoped Capital Club members would pay a right Royal price for. So far, the highest bidder has pitched a measly £130.

Royal revelation

THE paint is still drying on the walls of the Baltic Exchange in preparation for the Duke of Edinburgh's visit today. Prince Philip, who was due to open the new Exchange building last November, had to pull out at the eleventh hour after Bill Clinton arrived unexpectedly at Buck House. As an honorary member, the Duke will unveil a £30,000 tympanum — a 15-foot replica of the stonework that graced the entrance to the original Exchange building before it was bombed in 1992.

MORAG PRESTON

Contrasting trends among jobless threaten growth

Philip Bassett on
the vanishing
workforce and
the unemployed
young and old

Soon after the Government announces today what ministers hope will be another fall in unemployment, Tony Blair will unveil Labour's plans to tackle a "lost generation" of jobless young people. Labour's proposals for the under-25s, under the title of Target 2000, will include the scrapping of the current Youth Training scheme, as forecast by *The Times* last week, as well as further moves on the party's welfare-to-work plans. This comes as UK business leaders, spearheaded by Howard Davies, Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, have begun to urge organisations in the UK to push for "balanced-age" workforces.

Both moves reflect a deeper concern among senior economic policymakers about the impact on Britain's economic and competitive performance of its shrinking workforce — not just the ravages of still-high unemployment, whatever today's changes in the number of people out of work and claiming benefit show, but the fact that the number of people ready, willing and able to work at all now seems set on a declining trend.

The Government last week published, unnoticed, new figures showing that Britain's workforce fell again in 1995 — for the fifth year running. While a one-year fall may be a blip, and two an interesting phenomenon, five looks like a trend. The cumulative drop in the workforce over the five-year period amounts to 492,000 people.

Out of a workforce of 27.7 million, such a drop — even the cumulative figure amounts to only 1.8 per cent of the current total — looks like small change. But the direction of the movement, as much as the scale of it, is enough to cause alarm bells to ring in the economic policy circles of Britain.

Treasury officials are privately making clear their concern about the trend, to the extent of giving warnings that it may well lead to a reduction in Britain's long-term economic growth rate. While even privately they put no definite figures on their judgment yet, their view contrasts markedly with that of their political master, Kenneth Clarke.

The Chancellor managed in the last Budget's accompanying *Red Book* to lift the official estimate of the economy's long-term sustainable growth rate from 2.25 to 2.5 per cent, though he is said to believe that the real rate may be nearer 3 per cent.

The Treasury's private concerns about the economic impact of a falling workforce coincides with similar developments elsewhere. In the US, in particular, key gurus of job-cutting, who dressed it up in fashionable euphemisms such as "downsizing" and "restructuring", are now recanting. President Clinton's study group on downsizing is likely to come up with policy recommendations for greater



The predicted rise in the number of men in the workforce over the next ten years is less than the fall in the past five

corporate citizenship which have been strongly promoted in America by Robert Reich, his Labor Secretary.

In the UK, from its all-time high of 28.2 million in the spring of 1990, before the recession hit, Britain's workforce has been falling steadily. Or more precisely, Britain's male workforce has. Over the period 1990-95, the number of men in the labour force fell by 498,000 — down from just over 16 million to 15.6 million, or a drop of 3.1 per cent. At the same time, the female labour force grew, by a marginal 6,000, to 12.2 million. What the Treasury and others are now concerned about is the effect of such changes on Britain's productive capacity: that the economy cannot grow in line with the longer-term trend in growth if the workforce which both reflects and generates that growth is falling.

But the Government's forecast a rise in the total labour force last year, by 95,000. In fact it fell, by 25,000, just as it has fallen over the past five years. Yet, the Government's projected changes over the next ten years are all increases. It is still projecting the labour force in Britain to rise this year by 238,000 from its current level (though by rebasing the 1995 figures, statisticians are officially projecting a 145,000 increase). That is set, according to Whitehall number-crunchers, to be followed by rises of 193,000 in 1997, 138,000 in 1998, and 119,000 for each of the two years after that, and so on.

Over the five years from 1995 to the end of the century, the British labour force is projected to increase by 807,000, or almost 3 per cent. Over the decade to 2006 — the furthest year official projections yet go to — it is set to rise by some 1.5 million, or 5.6 per cent. Most of this rise is forecast to be among women. The

number of men in the workforce is set to increase over the next decade by 429,000, or 2.75 per cent, while the number of women is forecast to go up by 1.1 million, or more than 9 per cent. If such estimates are in any way correct, they will still not balance out the decline in the male labour force since the start of the 1990s: over the whole period 1990-2006, the number of men in the labour force will be down by 69,000.

This reflects longer-running trends. Since 1971, the number of women in the labour market has risen by almost a third, from 9.4 million to 12.1 million in 1995. At the same time, in spite of the ups and downs of job creation and loss, the male workforce is, at 15.6 million in 1995, effectively the same as in 1971.

Within all this, age is an important factor, as Mr Blair will underline today and Mr Davies emphasised on Monday from opposite — though both insist, not contradictory — ends of the spectrum of concern. As downsizing companies have shed their older and mainly male employees, taking the cost on the pension fund, early retirements have risen sharply and more men have moved out of the workforce.

Drawing on a complex blend of birth rates, fertility rates (which affect economic activity rates for women under 45), immigration levels, and overall activity rates, including the effect of more people staying on longer in full-time education, the Government's Office for National Statistics suggests a changed future shape for the UK workforce over the next decade. The Government suggests, for instance, that by 2006, Britain's workforce will be older, driven by a projected rise of 1.9 million people in the 35-54 age band, and a fall of 1.2 million in the under-35 age range.

Such figures
with obvious
implications
offer a
startling
challenge

But economic changes taking place now are already having an impact. Take unemployment. Business leaders launching their Employers for Age campaign this week said that in emphasising the commercial and economic importance of both recruiting and retaining older workers, they were not pushing a second-order economic issue against the more pressing concerns of other long-term unemployed young people.

While accepting the importance of not dispensing with experience, Mr Blair today in the august surroundings of the Institution of Civil Engineers set the creation of a new economic environment for young people as a central priority for an incoming Labour government.

Although unemployment overall is down, over the past year a disturbing new trend has emerged: at the same time as the overall fall in joblessness, unemployment among young people aged 16-19 is rising again. The story is different among young men and young women. Unemployment among women aged 16-19 fell, by 4.4 per cent, in line with decreases in all the female age bands. But among males aged 16-19, unemployment was up by 9.6 per cent in a single year. Only among the small number of men still in the workforce beyond retirement age — estimated at about 250,000 — did unemployment rise more rapidly. Such figures, with their obvious implications for social cohesion, let alone economic performance, offer a startling challenge to policymakers.

Thus, the worrying demographics of the labour market lurk behind today's political arguments. If the Government's projections are right, and Britain's workforce starts to grow again, then economic growth, if not assured, is at least likely to maintain its trend levels. But if the pattern of the 1990s so far continues, and Britain's workforce continues to decline, then the Treasury's private concerns may spill over into the public arena.



ANTHONY HARRIS

Central banks: ever more glory, ever less power

Alan Greenspan is still being lionized on the days when he is not being canonized. The truth of the matter, perhaps, is that he has become marginalized.

American spelling or not, nobody puts it better than Jim Grant — he of the *Interest Rate Observer*. He is reporting on American conditions of placid prosperity: steady growth, no change in interest rates, none in contemplation.

Yet as he points out, the Federal Reserve is impersonating a swan — serene above the surface, paddling away like mad underneath. For the past few months the Federal Reserve has been keeping liquidity progressively tighter, until it has achieved this month an almost unprecedented stranglehold, with the growth of Federal Reserve Credit down to an annual rate of only 0.7 per cent.

That is not much more than half the growth rate achieved in the last trough, at the end of 1989. But whereas in 1989 the yield curve inverted, credit contracted, stocks fell and there was a brief recession, this

franc swept into ever more absurd over-valuation, who can possibly blame him?

The only answer that has yet been tested is to carry the normal means of intervention in the markets to unheard-of extremes.

The Bank of Japan started it, addressing the banking crisis and the yen overshoot with virtually free credit, and unprecedented foreign exchange intervention.

The Federal Reserve, on the other end of the see-saw, is now constrained to mount its deliberately ineffective squeeze. The Bundesbank has a different agenda: to try to revive the whole European economy on its way to EMU. To this end, it has cut the discount rate to 2.5 per cent, another virtual record, but the results are so far unimpressive.

This, ironically, is simply because this is such a visible step on the way to European Monetary Union.

Bond investors do not like the idea of investing marks and being repaid in an "Esperanto currency" as a Bundesbank skeptic has christened the new Euro currency. So bond yields, the best proxy for German in-

Central banks
are looking
like something
from the
Walrus and the
Carpenter

dustry's capital costs, have stayed relatively stuck. And would the putative European central bank, an Esperanto Board managing this currency, do anything

more effective? "I doubt it", as the Carpenter would have said. If he is right, why are the individual central bankers of Germany, France and other likely members so keen on preserving their job opportunities?

But if the central banks are now constrained to thrash about, deploying potentially high-risk policies to restore their lost potency, who does run the show? Will it be the bond markets? Ever alert, even for non-existent inflation risks, and manic-depressive with it they might well be adjudged unfit persons.

The hedge funds? Don't be ridiculous.

The correct answer must be that in a free global financial market, as in any true market, nobody is in charge. That is the glory of free markets — and also the source of their potential downfall.

Unchecked markets have the greatest potential for growth, it is true, but history shows that they also have the greatest potential for inflationary explosions, and for crashes.

So what next? Re-regulation? Good guess.

Victoria McKee looks at a campaign to benefit frequent flyers



Farrol Kahn, the founder and first director of the Aviation Health Institute: "The airline industry is the only one with no health executive"

Blast of fresh air for aviation health

Sir Peter Walters, chairman of SmithKline Beecham, used to feel "like a caged lion" on long-haul flights. Then he discovered that if he broke them up with a golfing stopover or to go swimming he'd arrive fresher and ready to do business.

SmithKline Beecham is one of the corporate sponsors behind a new Aviation Health Institute to be launched today by that frequent flyer Sir David Frost, who makes some 30 transatlantic trips a year.

Paul Nicholson, a senior vice-president with the company, who spends half his time in the US and half in Britain, keeps identikit wardrobes in both countries to try to feel less disoriented. He, too, understands the strains that long-distance flights place on the business traveller, hence his role on the executive council of the new institute, together with senior executives and medical advisers of Marks & Spencer, Glaxo Wellcome, BP, Bupa, PPP, Mercantile & General Reinsurance, Harper Collins, Vodafone and the RAF

School of Aviation Medicine. The institute has been funded with £100,000 so far and the donation of offices in Oxford from William Norton, one of the trustees. It is seeking £10 million for an ambitious research programme into air passenger health and the effect of frequent flying on the course of common diseases, and to learn how to increase productivity of business travellers.

Beecham, Bupa, Vodafone, HarperCollins and Deloitte & Touche, in addition to SmithKline, have taken out an annual corporate membership in the institute at a cost of £5,000 each. Mercantile & General has become a "life member" for £50,000.

The AHI's scientific advisory committee is chaired by Sir Magdi Yacoub, the cardiothoracic specialist, who often has to undertake delicate surgery after a long-haul flight. Farrol Kahn, a former petroleum executive turned medical writer and campaigner for airplane passenger health, is founder and director of the institute. "When I travelled for

Burmah Oil I was always fascinated to know why my body was acting strangely, and wanted to find out what one is up against in the air. These days there are bankers who think nothing of going to Hong Kong for dinner but no one has really studied the effects of this type of travel. For many business people, the plane has become an important part of their occupational environment."

They may not be aware that the environment promoted as being so tranquil and cosseting can aggravate ailments as diverse as asthma and angina, lead to digestive upsets, mental disorientation, thrombosis and temporary hearing problems. Moreover, notes Andrew Valance-Owen, Bupa's medical director and a member of the institute's executive council, the seats in economy class in many airlines "are often tilted at 35 degrees — the angle used by interrogators to deprive their subjects of sleep."

"Many problems," Kahn says, "are caused by hypoxia [a

lack of oxygen], which doesn't affect the healthy but can exacerbate cardiovascular conditions and blood disorders. Gas in body cavities also expands and can affect sinuses, ears, toothache and recent abdominal surgery."

The effects may be minimised by awareness and prevention — from drinking carrot juice several days before a flight to ward off hypoxia, to choosing a seat that is not at the back or near the engines, taking exercise and eating and drinking sensibly in flight.

Sir Peter sees SmithKline Beecham's involvement as vital for "strategic" purposes, since the health and comfort of employees in the air is essential for their performance on the ground.

What is interesting about this institute, if it gets off the ground, is that it has been set up by consumers rather than by the airlines or aircraft manufacturers, or others with vested interests.

Kahn, of course, gets a salary out of it (a modest one, he insists), a free office

and a launch pad for future books on the subject — he already has two to his credit. "The airline industry is the only one with no health executive, merely safety executives," he says. "Passengers have an obligation to look after their own health, so airlines can be very much like ostriches, sticking their heads in the sand."

Many of the changes Kahn would like to see before 2000, when there will be an estimated 1.5 billion passengers a year globally, are small and could be made immediately, he contends. "One of the simplest things would be for planes to provide 100 per cent fresh air — as they used to. The world's healthiest airline is Concorde, which offers 100 per cent fresh air recycled every three and a half minutes. But most planes only provide 30 per cent fresh air since they can save £50,000 by recycling stale air, since it takes extra fuel to provide fresh air. We must give the human factor priority in air travel, at last, instead of engineering and economics."

BASF Aktiengesellschaft 67056 Ludwigshafen

Allianz Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH, Munich/Germany has notified us in accordance with § 41 paragraph 2 of the Wertpapierhandelsgesetz (Law on Securities Trading) that its share of the voting stock of our company exceeds 10% and altogether amounts to 10.6% (as of January 1, 1995).

Ludwigshafen, May 13, 1996

BASF Aktiengesellschaft
The Board of Executive
Directors



BANCO DO BRASIL

IMPORTANT NOTICE RE CHANGE OF OPENING HOURS

Banco do Brasil S.A. wishes to inform clients and correspondent banks in the United Kingdom that, with effect from 3rd June 1996, the counters of the London branch will be open to the public on London business days between the hours of 12pm and 4pm daily. Access to the Bank for purposes other than retail transactions will remain unchanged.

Ionica aims to undercut BT phone bills by 20%

By OUR CITY STAFF

A NEW national telephone system was launched yesterday with a promise to cut bills by up to 20 per cent in a bid to sign one million customers by the end of the century.

Ionica plans to create several thousand new jobs by the year 2000 if it successfully takes on BT and wins a 5 per cent share of the market.

The company has so far spent about £150 million to

prepare itself for the launch of nearly two million homes in the East of England. Nigel Playford, Ionica's chief executive, estimated that an extra £200 million would give it the basic infrastructure needed to offer the service nationally.

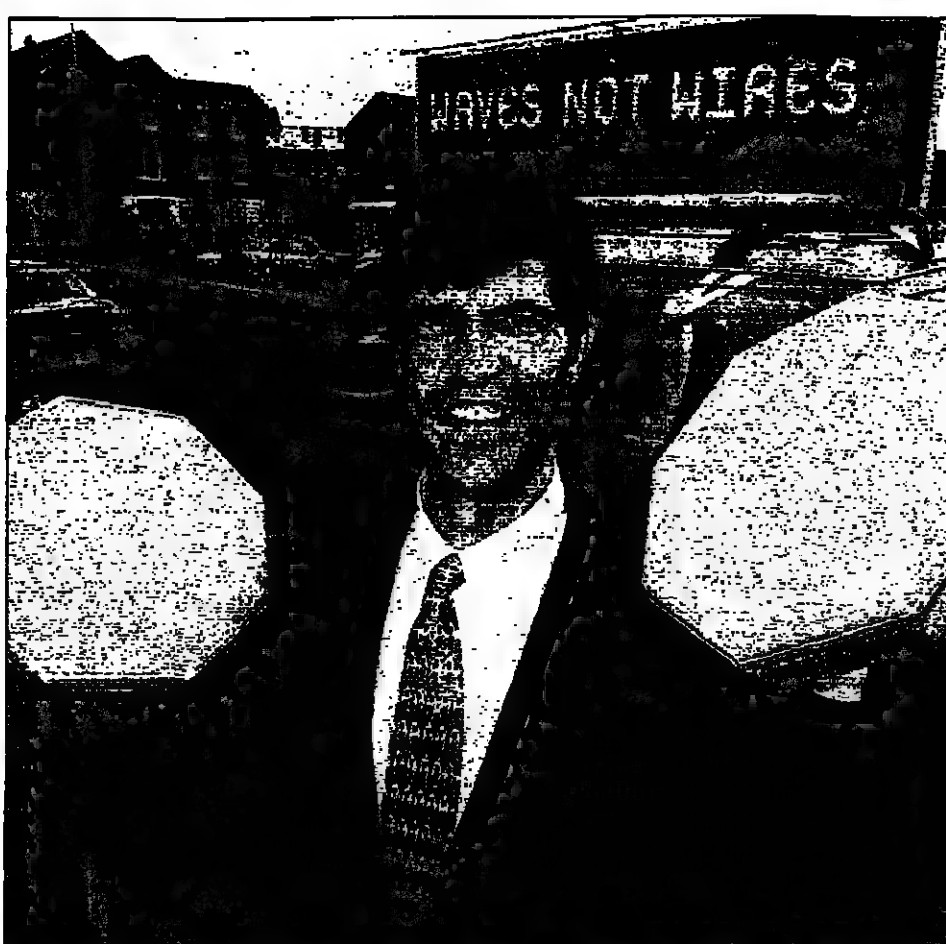
Its system, based on radio waves rather than cables, will initially be available in East Anglia and will spread over the next two years to cover the whole of the country.

The company, based in Cambridge, said residential and small business telephone users will see their bills cut by between 15 per cent and 20 per cent and will have extra features if they switch from BT. UK and international calls will be about 15 per cent cheaper, line rental will be 20 per cent below the BT level and the cost of installing a second telephone will be 70 per cent cheaper.

But Mr Playford acknowledged that the tariffs on offer were not "too dissimilar" to those of some cable television companies, who between them are taking 50,000 customers from BT each month.

Mr Playford argued that the Ionica offer was much easier for people to understand than that of the cable companies, which varied from region to region and was often linked to television subscriptions.

One of the new features is that every line can have three separate telephone numbers, each with its own distinctive ringing tone. "It means that if you are watching football on television and the phone rings, you can stay where you are because the ringing tone will tell you if the call is for the kids," said Mr Playford.



Making waves: Nigel Playford, chief executive, at Ionica's telephone network launch

Confidence at Westbury despite slip

By SIMON KENNEDY

WESTBURY, the house-builder, suffered a 9.6 per cent drop in pre-tax profits to £11.5 million for the year to February 29, including a £1.7 million exceptional reorganisation charge.

Geoffrey Maddrell, chairman, said he is confident of making "further significant progress" in the year ahead after an encouraging start, which saw underlying sales reservations rise 10 per cent.

Earnings per share rose 4 per cent to 12.7p, while the final dividend, due July 15, is up 5.2 per cent to 4.05p for a total of 6.05p. The company also announced plans to unveil a new corporate identity later this month to promote a "warmer and friendlier image".

Newsprint costs hit The Telegraph

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

HEAVY rises in the cost of newsprint continued to hit profits at The Telegraph, the newspaper publisher, in the three months to March 31.

Pre-tax profits fell by almost a quarter to £6.6 million from £8.7 million as the group struggled to absorb a 47 per cent increase in newsprint prices.

The company's profitability also suffered from a decline of 29 per cent to £4.2 million in the contribution from the company's stake in John Fairfax, the Australian media group. Hollinger, the parent company of The Telegraph, is engaged in a power struggle over Fairfax with Kerry Packer, the Australian media tycoon.

But an easing in the news-

paper price war in Britain helped the group to recover lost revenue and overall turnover rose 19 per cent to £73 million.

There was also an improvement in advertising, with total revenues rising by 5.1 per cent, although revenue from display advertising fell by 6.2 per cent.

The Telegraph added that newspaper prices had since stabilised and that display advertising revenues had also shown signs of improvement in the second quarter.

The company described its circulation performance since the beginning of the year as "promising". Hollinger, which is the majority owner of the Telegraph, last month made a £760 million offer for the remaining 36 per cent of the company.

The deal, which values each Telegraph share at 560p plus a special dividend of 10p, still needs the approval of the company's shareholders.

On the stock market, shares in the company closed unchanged last night at 557p.

Penalties rising for bias at work

By PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EMPLOYERS are now paying far more for unlawful discrimination over race and sex, a report says today.

The increase in compensation awards, identified in a study by an independent labour market analyst, is clear evidence of the effect of the removal, more than two years ago, of the statutory upper limit on such compensation after a decision by the European Court of Justice.

Industrial Relations Services (IRS) compares the level of compensation awards made by industrial tribunals in the year prior to the abolition of the upper limit in November 1993, with the level of awards in the two-year period after its abolition.

In the case of the first, the average compensation award was £2,940; in the case of the latter awards rose 31 per cent to £3,777. If awards made in Ministry of Defence cases brought by servicemen discharged because of pregnancy are included, average compensation rose more than three-fold, to £12,172. The average award in these cases is now down from £33,346 to £16,009.

In cases of proven racial discrimination, pre-limit awards were, on average, £2,824. After abolition, the average rose 63 per cent to £4,596. More than 10 per cent of awards are now over the old limit, ranging from £11,000 to almost £30,000.

IRS's Equal Opportunities Review says that over the two-year period, employers were ordered to pay out more than £5 million to victims of unlawful discrimination.

Gary Bowker, the study's author at IRS, says that employers are now having to pay more for their unlawful actions: "There is now a clear financial incentive for employers to take equal treatment seriously and import the principles of equality law into their personnel decisions."

Trade unions are winning the workplace battle for recognition, the TUC says today in a study. It claims that deals involving recognition by employers for collective bargaining are now up by 50 per cent compared with six months ago.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Kwelm creditors set for payout of \$220m

COOPERS & LYBRAND, administrator for five insolvent British insurance companies known collectively as Kwelm, said the group's mainly US creditors would receive a third instalment of \$220 million this summer. This will bring the total sum paid to more than \$920 million since the five were declared insolvent in 1992. Estimates of the group's ultimate liabilities have been cut by almost \$1 billion to \$9.7 billion. The Kwelm companies comprised Kingscroft Insurance, The Kwelm Insurance, El Paso Insurance, Lime Street Walbrook Insurance, and Mutual Reinsurance. Kwelm had 100,000 policyholders. About 30 per cent of the policies, many insuring against pollution and asbestosis liabilities, have matured.

SBC merger go-ahead

THE Federal Reserve Board has given Swiss Bank Corporation the go-ahead to merge its US investment banking businesses from next month. The SG Warburg banking business and SBC Capital Markets operations, which have been operating separately since the takeover of Warburg by SBC last summer, will become SBC Warburg Inc. The merged business will employ 1,000 people in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco and Boston.

UPF jumps 22%

UPF, the vehicle chassis frame manufacturer, enjoyed a 22 per cent increase in pre-tax profits in the six months to February 29 to £3.1 million from £2.6 million in 1995. Earnings per share rose to 7.8p (6.4p) and the interim dividend rises to 1.6p from 1.5p, due June 20. The company is continuing to look for growth in Europe after its purchase of Bellino last October. It has already increased its business with Mercedes Benz.

WT Foods to raise £3m

WT FOODS, the speciality food company, is raising £3 million via a placing and open offer of new shares to finance new plant and equipment, increase marketing activity and strengthen the balance sheet for future expansion. The company is offering four new shares for every 15 held at 27p each. Existing shares rose 1p to 30p yesterday. The company forecast profits of not less than £500,000 (£1.6 million) for the year to March 31. The final dividend is 0.85p (1.75p) a share.

United News on target

UNITED NEWS & MEDIA, created by the merger of the publisher of the *Daily Express*, *Sunday Express* and the *Daily Star* with MAI, the television and financial services group, said profits and trading this financial year are "in line with expectations". Lord Stevens, chairman, said: "Although many of the improvements in operating performance will only be fully reflected next year, we expect a significant proportion of savings in the current year."

Diploma holds dividend

DIPLOMA, the electronics and building products company, is maintaining the interim dividend at 4.5p a share after suffering a downturn in profits to £11 million before tax in the half year to March 31, from £13.5 million in the first half of the previous year. Earnings fell to 12.7p a share from 15.5p. The company said the decline in profits reflected margin pressures in the electronics sector and low demand for building products. Turnover was £114 million (£107 million).



General Accident

12 MONTHS' RESULTS		
	3 Months to 31.3.96 Estimated £m	3 Months to 31.3.95 Estimated £m
General Premiums	1,112	1,029
Underwriting Result	(96)	(14)
Net Investment Income	136	115
Life Profits	20	16
Operating Profit before Taxation	55	112
Operating Earnings per Ordinary Share	6.8p	16.6p

- Operating pre-tax profit of £55m follows severe weather property losses of £70m.
- Winter weather property claims cost £34m in the UK.
- Results in the United States and Canada adversely affected by severe weather but underlying trends remain encouraging.
- Net investment earnings up 13% in original currencies.
- Good new business production in UK life and pensions, assisted by acquisition of Provident Mutual.
- Current solvency margin 75%.
- Net assets per ordinary share 651p.

General Accident plc

General Accident plc, World Headquarters: Pitheavlis, Perth, Scotland PH2 0NH

These results are also available on the Internet: <http://www.ga.co.uk>

For your company golf day... ...it's the business

The Times Mees Pierson Corporate Golf Challenge is open to any company, company director, partnership, association or club (not a golf society) based in the British Isles, which holds a business or company golf day on 12th or 13th June 1996.

How to participate

1. Complete and return the entry form to The Times Mees Pierson Corporate Golf Challenge, PO Box 4, Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 3DL. A UK invoice will be sent with acknowledgement.
2. The company must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF) and must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF) and must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF).
3. The company must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF) and must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF).

Company Registration

Company name: _____
Company address: _____
Post Code: _____
Telephone No: _____
Fax No: _____
E-mail: _____
Name of company representative (to whom all correspondence will be sent): _____
Will be holding a golf day at: _____ Golf Club
Address: _____
Country: _____
On the name and date of your golf day have yet to be completed please return this form to: _____

Benefits of Entry

- Your golf day featured in The Times Mees Pierson Corporate Golf Challenge.
- A list of all participating companies for your golf day.
- Display of The Times Mees Pierson Corporate Golf Challenge logo on your golf day.
- A golf day management package for your golf day.
- Complimentary entry to the National Golf Challenge.
- A chance to win a prize of £10,000.
- The opportunity to win the National Golf Challenge.
- A chance to win a prize of £10,000.
- The opportunity to win the National Golf Challenge.
- A chance to win a prize of £10,000.

Rules and Regulations

The company must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF) and must be a member of the British Golf Federation (BGF).

011 436 3415 or
011 221 2225 (Scotland)
011 436 3551

TITLE SPONSOR
Mees Pierson
MERCHANT BANKERS SINCE 1720

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS
CITROËN
Marratt
WATERFORD CRYSTAL
GOLF WORLD
ARMY & NAVY
ARMY & NAVY
ARMY & NAVY

New York drives London higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603</
------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-------

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996

[illegible]

THE FACILITIES

The new
Design
for
the
new
Manager
Should
be regular

Stephen Hoare reports on the plans behind the new generation of prisons being built by private companies

Jails get the gentle touch

Women prison officers could be the key to the new generation of privately financed jails planned in response to a projected rise in the prison population.

"Women will have a calming influence on the inmates," said Richard Powell, head of Securicor Custodial. He was unveiling his company's plans for the medium-security Bridgend prison in Mid Glamorgan, South Wales, one of two private jails now under construction.

"We're going to be doing our best to reflect a more normal environment," he said. "At the moment a third of the staff we employ for prisoner escorting duties in London are women and I'd expect to see the same proportion at Bridgend."

With 20 applicants for one vacancy, Securicor has no shortage of female recruits for prison escorts. The company's decision to use women officers appears to have been vindicated by the results. After some teething problems, escapes are 85 per cent down on the level they were at when the firm took over its duties from the Metropolitan Police two years ago.

But guarding prisoners is one thing. Building and operating a new jail is an entirely

different business. It calls for a high level of management skills and a deep understanding of how prison communities operate.

Securicor and its business competitors — such as Group 4 and American security firms Wackenhut and the Correction Corporation of America — are teaming up with construction and facilities management firms to bid for lucrative pickings under the Government's Private Finance Initiative. Up to 12 new jails are needed and all are expected to go down the PFI route with 25-year operating contracts each worth £250 million for the winning consortia.

The complete package, from design through to building and operation, is where the

Home Office is looking to the private sector to make its biggest contribution. Brian Landers, Prison Service financial director, says: "Putting operations at the top of the design agenda is where the real savings can be realised and where new methods can be tried."

The Government expects private operators to knock 25 per cent off the costs of running prisons through flexible working practices and management efficiencies. Bridgend's inmates will have single cell accommodation and prisoners could be out of their cells for 14 hours a day. A large part of the day will be taken up with educational and industrial training programmes which Securicor will provide in partnership with

local colleges and the business community.

To build Bridgend, Securicor has teamed up with construction firms Costain and Skanska. Facilities management consultancy W.S. Atkins and the architect Richard Seifert. Due for completion on December 15, when the first prisoners arrive and the Home Office starts paying the private operator, the jail incorporates the findings of two recent reports into prison security. Stuart Fraser, a Costain director, says: "To all intents and purposes this is a Category A jail. We are well ahead of the game."

An important part of the design are large multi-use buildings which minimise the need for prisoners to move between blocks and consequently the opportunities for escape. The design also avoids dog-leg corridors and blind turnings, and incorporates sight lines for CCTV monitoring. Cell furniture is what Mr Powell describes as "robust".

The Home Office — which has long employed women officers in its prisons — will have a permanent representative on site to monitor conditions and to adjudicate in disciplinary cases where prisoners could lose remission for misconduct.



Calming influence: watched by a woman warder, an inmate learns to work a lathe

IN BRIEF

Atkins group favoured

ATCARE consortium, led by W.S. Atkins, is the preferred bidder to design, build, finance and operate a 308-bed extension to Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, and two other units on site. Atcare was selected by the South Manchester University Hospital NHS Trust for the Private Finance Initiative proposal, which has yet to receive Treasury approval. Other consortium members include Palf Mall Services and Alfred McAlpine Construction.

THE North Region of the British Institute of Facilities Management is holding a one-day seminar at the Old Trafford Cricket Ground, Manchester, on November 21.

The speakers include John Jack, chairman of Procord, Graham Briscoe, of Sun Alliance, and Alison Crompton, of GS Hall. Details: James Lodge on 0161-761 4663

BLENNHEIM Exhibitions & Conferences is launching FM Expo North at the G-MEX Centre, Manchester, on October 22 to 23. It is expected to attract more than 150 exhibitors and up to 3,000 visitors.

SLOTZ, the vending machine distributor, has paid £16.5 million for Terence Piper, a company based in Chesham, Surrey, that designs and assembles drinks vending machines.

SIR Paul Condon and William Taylor, the Commissioners for the Metropolitan and City of London police forces respectively, will be among the speakers at a conference on urban security, organised by Symonds Travers Morgan on June 4 at the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. Details from Sue Curry on 0171-421 2000.

A £200,000 contract for the supply and installation of a building management system to control buildings at Devonport Royal Dockyard in Plymouth has been awarded to Andover Controls by DML, the yard's operator.

Nursing a hospital back to health

Bernard Barbuk describes how outside managers have transformed the running of a hospital group

Facilities management is all about efficiency and saving money — right? Not as far as its growth within NHS hospital trusts is concerned. There, it has a lot to do with morale.

Take the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, for example. The city's social problems are well known. Poverty, vandalism and vagrancy are commonplace. So are shootings and other drugs-related violence. Gunshot victims are delivered to the Royal Liverpool's door, and armed police are a common sight inside and outside wards. Meanwhile, thieves steal 30 cars a month from the hospital car park, and break into another 40.

The RLH is a highly engineered and ageing building, completed in two phases in 1965 and 1978. It has a backlog of maintenance. For years the hospital has had to work to its

maximum capacity. Some wards have not seen a lick of paint in years. It has never been possible to take them out of service for long enough.

Private investment has been hard to come by, says Alan Wilkes, the trust's executive head of finance. Eliminating such problems called for a complete change. In 1995 previous trust policy was reversed: tendering and outsourcing became the rule.

From April, the management, maintenance, and strategic planning of the "estate" was contracted out to Mowlem Facility Management (MFM) on a seven to ten-year fixed-fee contract. The development coincided with the merging of the RLH with the Broadgreen

psychiatric hospital, which has been managed as a separate trust.

However, despite emphasising the "open book partnership and team" basis of the relationship, it is still not clear whether the single management command structure has been established.

MFM is responsible for the "strategic management" of the combined trust's estate and its capital programme. The maintenance side of the contract is discharged via its own on-site management partner — the building services company Lorne Stewart. The 53 service personnel (inherited under TUPE, the Transfer of Undertakings Protection of Employment regulations) are Lorne

Stewart employees. Meanwhile, a number of other newly appointed contractors handle aspects of the estate more usually included in facilities management remits and report directly to the trust.

Thus, security is contracted to Securicor, greatly aided by a Sensormatic CCTV system. Catering, cleaning and portering is a five-year Taylor Plan contract and energy in the form of steam generation is contracted to AHS Emstar.

The first year has been encouraging: a 20 per cent saving on building maintenance costs. Security has improved; much-needed space and staff reductions have been

generated by the rationalisation with Broadgreen four miles away; building maintenance via a help-desk and call-out system is producing a better service with fewer people.

But most of the big leaps forward remain to be taken. For example, replacing the trust's idiosyncratic Unix-based Resman computer system. To quote Ken Thomas, MFM's manager on the spot, this is "strong on input, weak on reporting, and with interfaces limited to car parking and security". Then there is the plan to improve the building management system and introduce low-energy lighting.

Critics could also point to the report-intensive nature of the new regime, with monthly, quarterly, and annual reports from Mowlem/LS and separate monthly monitoring by the trust itself.



Sign of the times: contracted workforces are taking over

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 782 7936

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

FAX:
0171 782 7702

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT

BIFM Appointments Service

Euro Personnel Services have been supplying facilities staff for the last 16 years. Temporary and permanent positions have been sourced with contractors, consultants and prestigious end users on a National and International basis, from Junior Operatives to Board level.

Euro Personnel are now the BIFM Appointments Service.

For further information on how we can assist with your career development, contact our Head Office on 0171-623 0101.

BIFM

SERVICE WORKS BRING YOU

QFM

The Facilities Management Software Solution

Helpdesk
Asset Performance Analysis
Contract Management
Service Level Agreements
Health & Safety
Invoice Reconciliation
Incident Monitoring
CAD Drawings
Scanned Images
Asset Management
Planned Maintenance
Room Booking
Documents
Stores Control
Contractor Performance Monitoring

Contact Nicole Goddard on 0171 924 4870 or Fax 0171 738 1889
Service Works Limited, 2 Cairns Road, London SW11 1ES

THE TIMES Facilities Management

The monthly Facilities Management section is now well established and recognised within the market place, and has become essential reading for anyone wishing to keep abreast of Industry News, Developments and Initiatives. Since 1992 The Times has been the only National Newspaper to devote an entire monthly section to Facilities Management.

Should you wish to promote your company's products or services within our regular feature, contact:

Chris O'Neill
Business Development Group
Tel: 0171 782 7936, Fax: 0171 782 7702

YOUNG & CO

Project and Facility Managers

247-257 Baker Rd, LONDON NW12 7YJ
Tel: 0171 813 0170 Fax: 0171 813 0171



SALUTE THE WINNERS! BUILDING MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARDS DINNER

on Tuesday 1 October 1996

at London Hilton on Park Lane

Guest Presenter:

GMTV's
Eamonn Holmes

also of BBC TV's 'How Do They Do That'

For further information contact
Elaine Carter
Englemere Services Limited
on 01344 23355

Facilities Manager

As one of the busiest Magistrates' Courts in the country, we have an established reputation for sound strategic and operational planning backed by tight control of resources which are directed towards the delivery of a high quality public service. The organisation employs some 200 staff in an eight storey Courthouse covering 22,000 square metres, which is the subject of a multi-million pound M&E Renovation Scheme.

This new post has been created to provide comprehensive management of all facilities which support the primary purpose of the organisation which is the provision of a high quality system of Justice within the community. Reporting directly to the Deputy Chief Executive you will also play a key role within a newly created Senior Operational Management Team of 9 members who cover the Legal, Management and Technical disciplines within the organisation. You will directly control 10 building service staff and have a wide remit to positively influence quality standards, building services policy, contracted-out facilities, health and safety issues, expenditure, energy conservation, inventory control and the promotion of a Value For Money culture.

Extensive and proven experience in a similar role is essential, together with an appropriate qualification backed by first class communication skills and the ability to integrate effectively within a multi-disciplined Management Team. You will also be expected to be independent in terms of administrative support within the role.

The commencing salary is £31,476 rising by 4 annual increments to £34,272 per annum on a three year fixed term rolling contract which will be renewable for a further 3 years after each 2 consecutive years of service. A relocation package is also available.

Please write for an application pack to David Stewart, Deputy Chief Executive at the address below.



City Magistrates' Court
Crown Square, Manchester, M60 1PR

Haden

Haden Facilities Management Limited

Summit House, Glebe Way, West Wickham, Kent BR4 0RJ
Tel: 0181-776 2322 Fax: 0181-776 2821
Contact John Barnes

Haden Facilities Management has a demonstrable track record of success. Services are provided to financial groups, utility companies, information technology providers, the manufacturing industries and various governmental organisations.

The company operates on a national basis and provides the expertise to manage, plan and operate a full range of accommodation, support and technical services.

• Facilities Management • Management Services • Consultancy

BICC Group





THEATRE 1

Simon Gray exudes plenty of ennui in his new play for Chichester, *Simply Disconnected*



THEATRE 2

... while in Greenwich the hardships of 1930s Germany are evoked in *What Now, Little Man?*

THE TIMES ARTS



MUSIC 1

An aristocrat on the ivories: the superb Polish pianist Krystian Zimerman returns to the Festival Hall



MUSIC 2

... and another peerless soloist, the violinist Itzhak Perlman, charms and dazzles in the same venue

CONCERT

Fiddler in fine fettle

WITH a pianist as partner instead of an orchestral context, Itzhak Perlman's consummate fiddle-playing blossoms in a different way, with subtle degrees of light and shade and a relaxed assurance that becomes charmingly disarming.

It almost verged on glibness at the start of Mozart's B Flat Sonata (K454), with which he began his sell-out programme with Bruno Canino, a wise chamber pianist who threatened at first to coarsen the tone of his piano.

Both artists soon settled down, however, with the violinist relishing some throwaway phrases like the equivalents of verbal one-liners, and Canino instinctively matching his partner in the way sustained notes swelled

Perlman/Canino
Festival Hall

out. Perlman kept the music in front of him, even when he had no need to refer to it, but perhaps it contained markings that helped towards such firm purpose and sprightly spirit in their playing.

Mozart was followed by Fauré, whose youthful A major Sonata, written before those of both Brahms and Franck, was carried in long-breathed violin phrases that swept aside the disparaging remarks often made about it as impeded by sensitive feeling.

Both players captured the half-lights that lend a special poetry to the work without diminishing its strength of character, and with notably delicate piano figuration in the Andante movement.

The Franck Sonata itself benefited from expressive fervour in place of romantic rhetoric, the violin musing with gentle lyricism on the modestly contained subject-matter in the opening movement and deferring to the piano's leading voice. Canino met the challenges of the big-handed piano writing and its varied complexities, the violin soaring above like a skylark in full song while its deep G-string was used to generate passionate feeling.

Both players imparted a sense of cogent direction to the free fantasia of the sonata's third movement, and ended it with the most genial of poetic dialogues.

NOEL GOODWIN

THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale on Simon Gray's old character in a new play; plus other reviews

Number unobtainable

Simply Disconnected
Minerva, Chichester

In John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*, the young Jimmy Porter denounced a Bishop of Bromley who implored Christians to support the H-bomb, and in *Dejávu* the old Jimmy Porter was even more scathing about a Bishop of Bromley who wore jeans at his enthronement and wrote a book called *An Unemployed Teenager Speaks with Christ*. The irritants had evolved in the 35 years that separated the original play from its sequel, but the malcontent had remained much the same.

Where Osborne robustly led, Simon Gray now follows, exuding relatively little of his usual waspish wit but plenty of his trademark ennui. When we first met his Simon Hench, publisher protagonist of *Otherwise Engaged*, he was listening to *Parsifal* after a day in which his wife told him she had a lover, an old school chum shot himself while muttering accusations into his answering machine, and his horrible lodger moved two horrible friends into the attic. Twenty-five years later we find him semi-retired in the country, yet rather less wholehearted when it comes to closeting himself up with his record-player. The irritants are much the same in *Simply Disconnected* but the malcontent has evolved and, Gray suggests, deepened.

If we remain unconvinced by Hench's deepening, it is not the fault of the actor who again plays him. The Alan Bates of *Otherwise Engaged* brought a truculent swagger to the business of fobbing off others. The Bates of *Disconnected* is sadder as well as older. His Hench still gets people's names wrong, still takes interest in the problems they obsessively fling at him, still irks them with his emotional aphasia. But now he senses that he is a Mardian who has been denied the compass that would give him his bearings on Earth, and at times he seems to rue it.

Especially in the first half of Richard Wilson's production, the plot does not hugely help Bates's performance or Gray's aims. Another ungrateful job is exploiting him, though this time he is not a lodger but the football hooligan boyfriend of "the girl who does my housework". The critic who interrupted him in *Otherwise Engaged* interrupts him again — in Gawn Grainger's performance a mellow, kinder man but still more nuisance



Fine cast, flawed idea: John Michie, Gawn Grainger, Charles Kay, Rosemary Martin, Benedict Bates, Alan Bates

than friend. His schoolmaster brother also reappears, this time played by Charles Kay and facing accusations of hanky-panky in the changing-room, but still envious, resentful and demanding. Several times, notably when Davina is discussed, I wondered if anyone who didn't know the earlier play would be puzzled by the sequel. But it is, I suppose, clear that Hench mourns the wife whom he

betrayed and impelled to betray him, and in the second half it becomes obvious that one of his offhand affairs has borne bitter fruit. A wild, stammering young man appears waving a gun — a super performance by Benedict Bates — and turns out to be the child of a student he casually seduced in his *Otherwise Engaged* phase. Very likely he is Hench's own son.

Here is the play's problem. *Engaged* was brash, sardonic,

funny and half-sympathetic, half-judging of Hench's pathological search for privacy. *Disconnected* is less brazen, less funny and far less critical of a protagonist who, it turns out, years for a son of his own. That's why Hench offers housework to the boy who has just threatened to shoot him. That's why he ends up begging to babysit for another child that only might be his. He has disconnected his phone, hence the punning title,

but part of him wants to be connected.

It is a commendable change, or discovery, of heart but, impressed though I was by Alan Bates's rap and looks and awful howls, I could not quite believe it. It is too radical and, an accusation I never thought I'd direct at Gray, too sentimental. The earlier play aims for less and scores. The sequel aims for more and, amusing and absorbing though it is, does not quite hit the mark.

John Allison talks to the uncompromising pianist Krystian Zimerman

Only perfection is acceptable

After a Festival Hall appearance four years ago, Krystian Zimerman was described by Max Loppert as "a superlatively fine pianist, on the way to becoming one of the world's master recitalists". That prediction has surely been fulfilled: when it comes to balancing technical perfection with playing of poise, eloquence and virtuosity, the 40-year-old Pole has few equals.

Zimerman guards this quality by limiting his performances to under 50 a year, and one of these will take place on Friday when he returns to the Festival Hall with a programme of Haydn, Beethoven and Schubert. "It's an excellent place to make music in, because of the audience. I love the people there, and I always see the same faces when I step onto the platform." But it has been two years since his last appearance in London: he cancelled a performance of the Ravel G major Concerto last season when promised rehearsal time was reduced.

"I'd invested a lot of time and money in playing this concerto — I'd bought a new piano especially and adjusted it for this particular piece. I had a precise idea of what I wanted to do in the rehearsals, and when one of them was cancelled I just thought it was too risky to go ahead. It's like someone asking if you really need four wheels for your car. This is our concert life today. We are driving on three wheels and somehow manage to get along. It's become a



Zimerman: "We're driving on three wheels today"

coincidence when something is really good.

"I know the London orchestras are professional, very quick to learn. But the tendency to rehearse less means that certain interpretations are becoming the same around the world. In the Ravel concerto there are at least 25 mistakes being played by nearly every orchestra on nearly every recording. I have tremendous fun rehearsing with orchestras, so I don't see why I should cut it down. Is rehearsing so horrible that we have to get it over in very little time?"

Zimerman is scathing of the suggestion that these cutbacks reflect a shortage of money. "It's a lie. We say that we don't have the money, but we've just changed the priorities. Man-kind has probably never had it better. For the authorities in

my home town of Basle to close the ballet next year — a company that has existed for 40 years — is a terrible misunderstanding. To close cultural institutions because of saving money — these are two ideas that just don't go together, and something we shouldn't allow our politicians to get away with."

Such principled views are matched in Zimerman by a deep musical seriousness. He prefers to do his practising in his head. "Banging out something is not music. We don't develop muscles by repeating passages, we develop only transmission, and that's a purely psychological problem. If you touch even one note, it has to be a musical and artistic experience. But the need to solve interpretational problems in my head means I'm very distracted when there's a Muzak around."

Restless and intellectually inquisitive, Zimerman always seems to be looking for problems to solve. His playing is powered at least in part by a tension between cerebral clarity and spontaneous emotionalism: it is hardly surprising that one of his closest musical partnerships was with Bernstein. His interests range through art and literature to mathematics and computers. He speaks at least six languages, yet finds time to be a devoted husband and father. He laments the absence of the Renaissance ideal of a complete human being. But does he look back longingly to the "golden age" of pianism?

"I wouldn't call it a golden age. But people played differently — there were different expectations. The first major change came with records. I remember very well that Rubinstein said to me, 'I started to practise when I started to record — before that I played all over the place.' He thought this was a way forward, but it was also a way backwards — people lost their freedom when they invested everything in accuracy. Before records there was a completely different goal, and that was to mesmerise live audiences. Music was partly a visual thing. I can't imagine charismatic virtuosos like Paganini and Liszt making the same careers on record alone."

Zimerman's own recordings for Deutsche Grammophon reveal much of his musical personality. His repertoire is wide, but as a Pole he finds Chopin, Szymanowski and Lutoslawski close to his heart. And Arthur Schnitzler is central to his life. "We met after I had won the Chopin Competition in 1975. He invited me for tea, and I walked out about one week later. I kept going back, we talked about so much. When I'm trying to solve a musical problem now, I remember what he told me 15 years ago. Only now with a lot of experience am I finding deeper levels of understanding for what I thought I understood before. I wonder how many levels there are!"

Krystian Zimerman plays at the Festival Hall on Friday (0171-960-4242)

Survival of the smallest

HANS FALLADA's novel *Kleiner Mann, Was Nun?* was the international bestseller of 1932. It told of a little husband, his little wife and their even littler baby struggling to survive amid the raging unemployment of the last Weimar years, and ended with them on the outskirts of Berlin, still enduring, with wily saying "perhaps 1933 will be our year".

Perhaps it was, and the child would grow up to be a 14-year-old in Hitler's final army. The story has been staged many times and filmed, too, and this new production is by the valiant and admirable team at Greenwich Studio Theatre, making its first appearance on the main Greenwich stage. Margaret Forsyth directs an adaptation by Julian Forsyth that links the scenes, or covers the scene-changes if you look at it another way, with songs in the style, we are told, of the Comedian Harmonists, Germany's most popular musical group around 1930.

The period and the predicaments of the characters are, as in previous productions, fascinating. But the little man is not just little, he's too docile. Some of this may have been intentional on Fallada's part

What Now, Little Man?
Greenwich

— the ordinary man at the mercy of impersonal forces — and Clive Walton's performance goes some way towards countering accusations of simple-mindedness. But he cannot conceal the hero's dim, slightly drugged passage through the seannier stretches of life. His mother's occupation as brothel-keeper he never comments upon, never ups and biffs her with a handy bottle of schnapps, although Anita Dobson's character, six parts screech to four parts treacle, cries out for some such reaction. He's just so sweet — and the same goes for Sharon Small's ever-plucky Emma.

The production resourcefully uses an open set dominated by walls of tenement blocks, providing windows and lights of steps to speed the pace a little. As for the songs, it is of course very period and charming to have them sung in German, but any comment the words might be making will be missed by many.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Women at work

The Power of the Dog
Orange Tree, Richmond

AS THE Orange Tree's season of 20th-century women's plays pushes on, shared concerns are emerging. In Ellen Dryden's new drama, as in Susan Glaspell's *The Verge*, being a nurturer proves a tricky business. Women are pulled between professional and personal commitments, are mothering on the one hand but inflicting damage on the other.

Dryden's protagonist is a teacher at a comprehensive. Vivien (Joan Moon) is trying to coax Lisa (Louisa Mulwood-Haigh), a difficult but bright pupil, into an appreciation of literature. She devotes time to special lessons yet is about to abandon her protégée, becoming a headmistress elsewhere.

Meanwhile, Vivien skips on her duties as a daughter. Paralysed down one side by a stroke, her feisty mother Grace (Barbara Lott) being delightfully sardonic) is being

unwillingly cared for by Aunt Vera, Vivien's erstwhile surrogate mother (Georgina Anderson). Vera makes a show of devotion while crippling her sister spiritually.

This play spans the ages of women, contemplates Christian virtues, emotional ties and standing on your own two feet. Dryden's forte is her acute observations of domestic power moves. And she pens witty lines.

Sam Walters's cast mostly convey warm humour and rage. The old birds are terrific.

KATE BASSETT

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

LONDON

Victoria Palace

May 25

● WINNER of the Olivier Award for Best Musical, *Jolson* stars Brian Conley as Al Jolson, star of the first "talkie" and a Broadway legend. Tickets are £25 (normally £30) for Theatre Club members, who can also meet the cast after the show over a glass of wine. Tel 0171-834 1317

Strand Theatre

June 3

● SEE Buddy — the story of rock'n'roll legend Buddy Holly — and enjoy a drink with members of the cast for only £17 (normally £23). Members can also buy top-price tickets for £16 for Monday to Thursday performances throughout May and June. Tel 0171-930 8800

Apollo Theatre

Until May 25

● ZOE WANAMAKER takes the title role in A.R. Gurney's ingenious new romantic comedy, *Sylvie*. But this is no conventional lead — this time, Wanamaker is ... a dog. Tickets £15 (normally £21.50) for Mon to Thurs performances and Sat matinees until May 18 and £16 (normally £23.50) until May 25. Tel 0171-494 5070

GLASGOW

May 28-June 1

● TICKETS £5 (normally £10) for *Claustrophobia*, a high-octane music and dance performance by the acclaimed Maly Drama Theatre of St Petersburg. Tel 0141-257 3903

MANCHESTER

June 4-8

● TWO tickets for the price of one (normally £7 to £12) for

THE TIMES THEATRE CLUB

Alan Ayckbourn's *Wildcat*
Drama, Tel 0161-236 7110

LEEDS

West Yorkshire Playhouse
May 29-June 5

● SAVE 10 per cent on tickets (normally £12.50 to £14) for Molière's comedy, *The Hypochondriac*. Tel 0113-244 2111

BIRMINGHAM

Repertory Theatre
May 22-24

● TWO tickets (normally £12.50 or £14.50) for the price of one for the revival of Anita Loos's *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*. Tel 0121-236 4455

SALISBURY

Playhouse
May 15-24

● APHRA BEHN's best-loved work *The Rover* (May 16, 21, 23-24) is a deliciously witty Restoration comedy. Her lesser-known *The Banished Cavaliers* (May 15, 17, 21-23) is full of biting wit. Tickets for either production £8 (normally £10.50) for Tues to Thurs performances and £10 on Friday (normally £12). Tel 01722 320333

SWINDON

Wyvern Theatre
May 27-June 1

● SAVE £2 on tickets (normally £8 to £10) for Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. Tel 01793 524461

HOW TO BOOK — AND JOIN

TO BOOK please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive will be the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage. TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 3164, Colchester CO2 3TL, or telephone 01206 225145 using your credit card. For general inquiries call 0171-387 9673



DESIGN

Not a lot of change out of £170 million? How the South Bank justifies its lottery bid



MUSEUMS

Nurturing a country's appetite for culture: Loyd Grossman launches his Museums Week

THE TIMES ARTS



YOUNG ARTS

Britain's most durable show of children's art opens its doors again in Sheffield



POP

Techno with a brain: Orbital show the Albert Hall how far they have come in six years

Does this cause deserve £170m?

London's South Bank needs a lottery facelift — but must it be such an expensive one, asks Marcus Binney

The South Bank arts centre will soon be in pole position for the largest lottery grant of all. True, the £170 million cost of the South Bank proposals is less than the £215 million required for the refurbished Royal Opera House, but the lottery's contribution is likely to be much greater — up to 75 per cent — than the £78.5 million offered to Covent Garden.

The South Bank says that the £170 million is spread across seven venues and is a vital piece of urban regeneration beside Britain's new gateway to Europe, the Channel Tunnel terminus. Some 40,000 people work in the Waterloo area, another 5,000 live there. But the South Bank, for all its glorious music, theatre and art, remains a sterile concrete wasteland disastrously out of character and contact with the rest of London.

So where will the £170 million go? The first £11 million (calculated at 1995 prices) is to be spent on the Hayward, providing it with a second set of exhibition galleries so it no longer has to close between shows. "At present there are no proper environmental controls, and nowhere to unload works of art in safety," Jo Kennedy, the South Bank project director, says.

Another £11 million will go to the Queen Elizabeth Hall. The stage will be adapted for dance and lyric theatre as well as music, with facilities for flying scenery, side wings and an orchestra pit.

Next comes the one "bargain item" on the menu. It is a £1 million transfer of the National Poetry Library to new ground-level premises, followed by £3 million for new education spaces, including

revamping the Purcell Room. On the river front, there is to be a wholly new £12 million auditorium, highly flexible in format and accommodating between 250 and 580 people. "Seats can be taken out to create a theatre in the round, so both modern and older pieces can be staged as composed," Kennedy says.

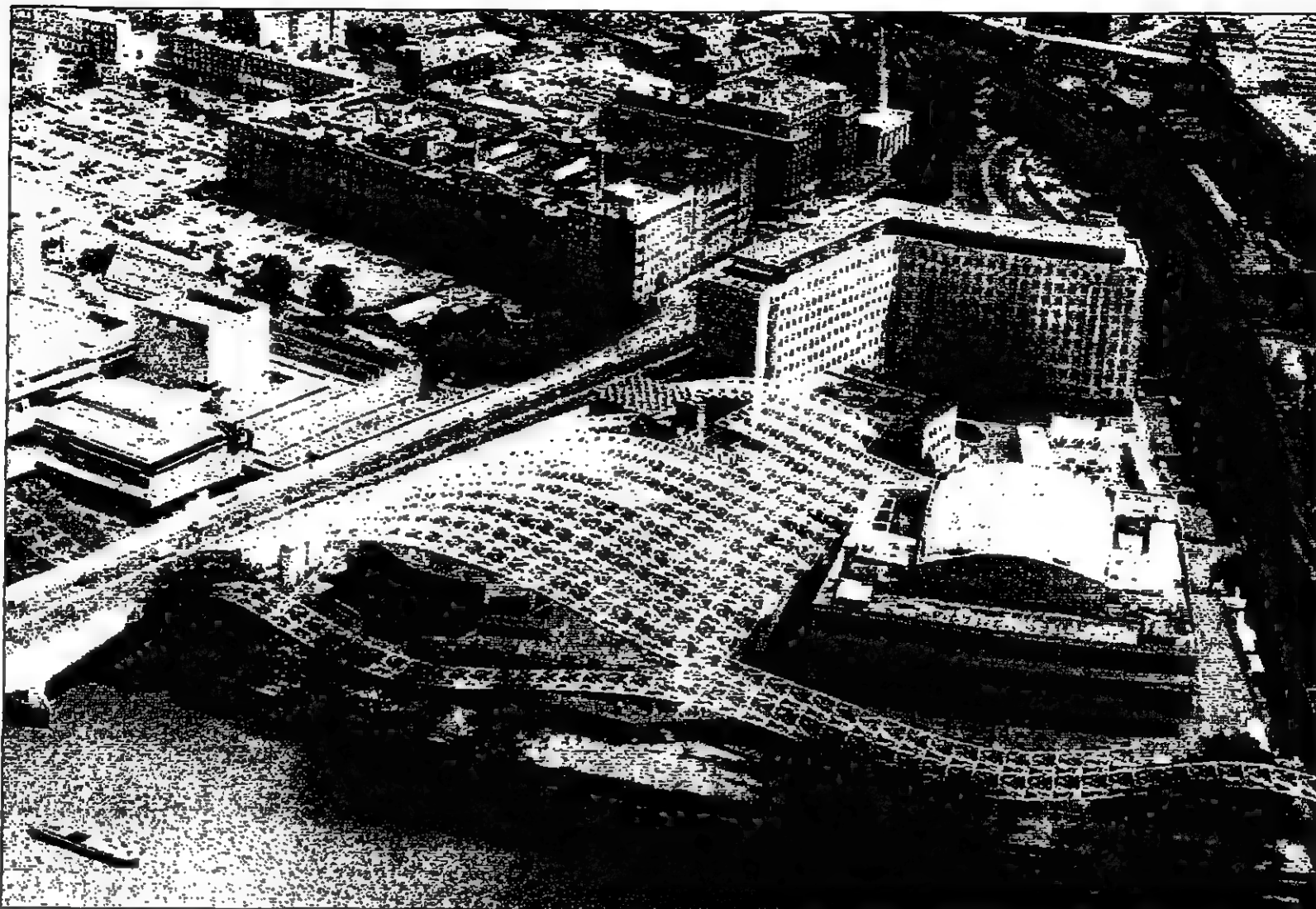
The most visible element of the scheme, Sir Richard Rogers's floating glass canopy over the Hayward Gallery and Queen Elizabeth Hall, the "Crystal Palace", comes in at £20 million, surprisingly good value given its size.

The latest technology allows it to be saddle-shaped and subtly asymmetrical, a worthy and beautiful heir to the great iron and glass train sheds of the 19th century.

By far the largest single item is the £35 million refurbishment of the Festival Hall by architects Allies & Morrison. They have already spent £3 million unpicking the worst meddler of the 1970s, with ravishing results.

The Festival Hall has always been acclaimed as one of the very best immediate post-war buildings in Europe, and the proposed refit is needed to bring it up to the top international technical standards demanded by conductors and orchestras. "The reverberation time is too short and needs lengthening," Kennedy says. "Players can't hear themselves or each other. We would also create a space above the stage for flying scenery, so opera and ballet can be much better accommodated."

What better advertisement could there be for music in Britain than for continental visitors to be sitting in one of the best concert halls in Europe within ten minutes of



A snip at £20 million? The floating glass canopy of Richard Rogers's "Crystal Palace" is only one of the proposals for the new-look South Bank

alighting from the Channel Tunnel train, without having to wait for a bus, Tube or taxi? Finally, there is £6 million for "retail" shells (something you might think the retailers should provide for themselves), which will again provide increased revenue to support arts performances in the future. The South Bank is also working hard to raise its proportion of the finance and has set up the South Bank Foundation to raise funds, with the property developer Ellion Bernard as chairman.

All these items add up to £122 million. The remaining £48 million is nothing more or less than a frightening provision for inflation. Actual building costs are not forecast to

rise more than 5 per cent a year, so the larger part of the inflation provision will go towards meeting what can be termed the "Eighties" factor. This is a firm belief on the part of everyone on the lottery roller-coaster that, as the millennium approaches, and more and more lottery projects compete with each other, building prices will go mad, as they did in the 1980s.

Here I pull the communication cord. The use of lottery money to fuel a new bout of boom-then-bust should be unthinkable. If construction companies know in advance that there are huge budget provisions for inflation, they will price accordingly.

The Government must tell the lottery distributors (and, if the Government does not, the media will) that only standard building cost inflation will be tolerated. If contractors put in tenders above this, projects should be cancelled or postponed. With major European building companies competing, it must be possible to get reasonable prices.

The second great question that needs to be asked about the whole South Bank project is just who is in charge. A scheme this size needs a leader of towering energy and determination — over and above the project director — to get it built on time and on budget. There is none in sight. Without

one the South Bank risks becoming a British Library-style fiasco with spiralling costs and endless delays. Let us imagine that the great South Bank lottery bid fails. The prospect of another decade or two of abortive arguments about how best to humanise this grim concrete wasteland is depressing in the extreme. But a more gradual approach might actually work better in the long term.

Give lottery grants to the Festival Hall, and one or two other items, including Rogers's Crystal Palace, but progress more slowly on the rest. This way, there might be a better chance of getting it right.

one the South Bank risks becoming a British Library-style fiasco with spiralling costs and endless delays. Let us imagine that the great South Bank lottery bid fails. The prospect of another decade or two of abortive arguments about how best to humanise this grim concrete wasteland is depressing in the extreme. But a more gradual approach might actually work better in the long term.

Give lottery grants to the Festival Hall, and one or two other items, including Rogers's Crystal Palace, but progress more slowly on the rest. This way, there might be a better chance of getting it right.

From cradle to Graves

Situated above the (currently closed) Sheffield main library, Graves Gallery is not the most accessible venue in Britain. But many of the adults queuing up three flights of stairs for the opening of its most recent Young at Art exhibition had no trouble finding the place. For they themselves had once had works on show during the 30 or more years of Young at Art.

Indeed, one of the three-man team that installed the 1,100 paintings, sculptures, models and drawings in this year's show remembers her work being displayed. Now, her own child's creations are on view.

The work of 70 local schools is included under this year's theme of *The Moving Image*, a complement to the current celebrations of a century of cinema. The Lumière brothers showed their first film at the city's Empire Theatre on June 22, 1896.

But the exhibition is mercifully free of interpretations of Charlie Chaplin or even Mel Gibson. More challengingly, the emphasis is on movement of all kinds. "Cinema may have been going for a hundred years, but moving images have been going rather longer," says Vivienne Sillar, art education officer for Sheffield's galleries. She and her colleagues spent a fortnight covering two walls, floor to ceiling, with the children's work, and the effect is one of colourful exuberance.

Contributions have been grouped according to subject — the animal section is characteristically well-stocked. "Children will always want to draw animals, but the idea here is to capture a bird's flight or a caterpillar wriggling along," Sillar says.

Earlier this year she staged a three-month exhibition of paintings, photographs, textiles and sculpture illustrating how artists such as Hockney and Frink have expressed movement. Some of the material was taken from the school lending service (a similar public lending service offers 1,400 works) but, naturally enough,

Jenny McClean joins the Sheffield parents learning what it means to be young at art

some children chose to go their own way. Eleven-year-old Steven Sylvester's self-portrait expresses "my moving emotions: I was feeling angry at the time". Alex Goodall, nine, painted a rhythmic old sewing machine, while 14-year-old Sarah Davis carved a house out of a block of plaster, an apparently still life until you spot the street scene etched on the front.

The after-effects of movement and the release of tension are vividly expressed in a large purple papier mâché model by Dean Rowbotham, 11, entitled *Relaxation*. And someone will want to keep as a family heirloom nine-year-old Emily Waterhouse's two small sculptures of *My Cousin Alice* learning to crawl.

At three-and-a-half, Emma Greenlees was too young to exhibit, but that did not stop her copying some of the work, such as a moving butterfly sculpture, into her sketchbook.

Young at Art '96: The Moving Image is at the Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield S1 1XZ (0114 2735158) until June 22. ASADOLUR GUTERMAN



David Sanderson adopts a lofty approach to the 1,100 works currently on show at Graves Gallery in Sheffield

Loyd Grossman tells Simon Tait why he has devised Museums Week

When the financial going gets tough, many a museum gets going, calling on a sympathetic celebrity to lend his or her name to an appeal, and their media-friendly face to a campaign. Susan Hampshire and Michael Palin can usually be relied on to come through with support, while the late Paul Eddington exasperated his agent by giving more time than he could really afford to helping out his local Bristol museum.

But Loyd Grossman is another matter. The television cook and genial gazer through the keyholes of other celebs is running a campaign for all of Britain's museums. Museums Week, devised and led by Grossman, began last year as a quirky Radio 2 event, but is launched again tomorrow with a flood of television and radio interviews. The week itself begins on Saturday — International Museums Day. The same day also sees the launch of *MAG*, a glossy magazine dedicated to museums and galleries, to which Grossman is contributing a restaurant review column.

He has got 300 MPs holding surgeries in their local museums — Austin Mitchell is driving to the Grimsby National Fishing Heritage Centre in a 1950s Austin — and he has got more than 650 museums, from the Corral Farm Museum in Orkney to the Porchester Museum of Submarine Telegraphy in Cornwall, to do something special to attract new visitors. And *Radio Times* has a special two-for-one voucher for the week.

But why Grossman? Chopping carrots and watching television one Friday evening 18 months ago, he caught Graham Greene, then chairman of the Museums and Galleries Commission, on the local news pleading for the future of museums under local government reorganisation (councils have no obligation to look after museums).

"I was shocked to think that so many museums were being threatened and no one other than museum professionals seemed to be interested or concerned about it," Grossman said. So he rang Greene.

Recipe to draw the crowds



Grossman: our museums rank with the world's best

This was not Friday night whimsy. Grossman has been a "museum user" — he dislikes the term "visitor" in this context, and detests "customer" — since as a child his furniture-dealer father used to trail him around Massachusetts museums. It was a habit he never lost.

When he was at the London School of Economics he nipped into the Sir John Soane's Museum most lunchtimes, and these days he is as likely to find himself at the other museum Soane designed, the Dulwich Picture Gallery. "Part of the greatness of Dulwich is that the pictures are incomparably enhanced by the setting. That's why the whole place works. I'm often amused by Bill Gates's idea that you can have any picture on your wall you want through technology. Yeah, you can, but it ain't the same, is it?"

He reckons to "use" a museum two or three times a week. "There's always a museum on the way to where I'm going or where I've just come from, and sometimes I'll pop in to look at one thing, or just have a cup of coffee."

Rather than merely offer to add his name to a list, he managed to bring round one

table all the national museum organisations, not always close allies: the MGC, the Museums Association (the professional curatorial body), the Association of Independent Museums and the British Association of Friends of Museums. Together they created the Campaign for Museums, run by him, whose principal purpose is to establish this week as an annual rallying point.

He wants to impress on the Government the vital importance of museums to British culture, and on the uninitiated public the "usability" of museums now. "We are blessed with around 2,000 museums which are among the best in the world, and many of which are certainly the most eccentric in the world. So the quantity and quality of British museums has had a very powerful effect on the quality of life for the people who live here, and they have been an incredibly important magnet for attracting visitors from abroad."

He doesn't play the economic card of suggesting that a museum plunked in a rundown town centre is going to revive the fortunes of a community. "There comes a time when you have to say we support museums because they're good for us. They are as good for society as the National Health Service, as education. I want to say that, instead of coming up with some incredibly mundane argument about spending."

What is irritating is the presence of National Lottery millions and their tantalising inaccessibility for what really needs doing. The Heritage Lottery Fund is announcing the completion of a clutch of lottery-funded museum projects in and around the week: the Catalytic chemical industry museum's new gallery in Widnes; the RNLi

lifeboat museum opening in Chatham; Gillingham Museum in Dorset where the volunteer curator has sold his local ironmongery so he can become full-time director; and the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry's new virtual reality exhibit.

But it is not enough. "We want the lottery to join us to help to pay for some of the core functions that are being eroded," Grossman says. "There's suddenly this idea that museum directors should behave like businessmen. I would love to see the museum community escape from the constant atmosphere of crisis management and concentrate on the things they have been trained to do, like the stewardship of important treasures, like educating people."

"What other institution has so much that appeals to so many different people? I hope that for the millennium the museums will make the idea of a learning society more of a reality. For Museums Week, I want to get across what one of the committee calls the Ladybird Book Message: Museums are Good."

STEPHEN DALTON

Duo aim to please

IF SPACE aliens had beamed down into this venerable motherhood of a venue, they could hardly have appeared more out of place than Orbital.

This is, after all, the wilfully faceless electronic duo whose distaste for the rock world is legendary. Even in the wake of Orbital's two triumphant headline sets at Glastonbury and their most successful album yet, *In Sides*, entering the charts at No 5 last month, a dance act playing an opulent all-seater concert hall smacks of grand folly.

But in many ways this event is the natural culmination of six years of work by Paul and Phil Hartnoll. Their crusade to steer techno music away from the hedonistic euphoria of acid house towards political and emotional content has earned them a wide following. Now, with the symphonic, soundtrack-tinged feel of *In Sides*, Orbital seem estranged from the dance sub-culture which originally nurtured them. Consequently this felt more like some lavish orchestral soirée than a pop concert.

But all that changed when the brothers arrived on stage. Beneath giant film screens flickering with poetic Jarmanesque imagery, and framed by blazing searchlights, they huddled behind a stack of keyboards to unleash 20-minute epics like *Out There Somewhere* and *The Girl with the Sun in her Head*.

Orbital Albert Hall

This is deadly serious music, with deeply human emotions stirring beneath its glacial techno surface. Semi-improvising each tune from hundreds of pre-programmed sequences, the Hartnolls retain an element of raw spontaneity lacking in most electronic acts. They also create space for haunting, atmospheric pieces like *The Box*, the duo's recent hit single, whose stark beats and sampled dulcimer refrain recall classic film scenes by John Barry and Laio Schiffrin.

The emotional charge, coupled with their willingness to embrace classical and cinematic influences, is undoubtedly the key to Orbital's appeal outside dance circles. And yet crafted subtlety takes a back seat, with booming percussion accentuated over melody, and strobe lights and smoke machines coaxing their mostly youthful crowd to their feet for almost the entire two-hour performance.

So here it seems, Orbital's secret. For all their anti-star principles and anti-rock rhetoric, their grasp of showmanship is second to none. They remain unafraid to fall back on crowd-pleasing tricks like multimedia stage effects, or dropping droll Belinda Carlisle samples into the warm electronic contours of *Halcyon*, just as they did at Glastonbury.

Ultimately, Orbital play progressive music with a pop heart. And for an Albert Hall packed with partisan revelers, there's nothing alien about that.

STEPHEN DALTON

GALERIE RUSSE DU CENTRE

Coming to Geneva for the very first time, an exceptional exhibition of Easter eggs and gold embroidery from the private collection of His Beatitude Patriarch Alexis II of Moscow and all the Russians

May 10 - June 21 1996 from 10am to 6pm Closed on Sunday and Monday

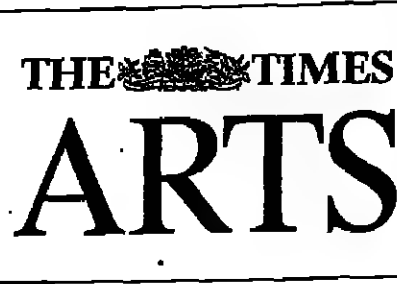
Galerie Russe du Centre Confédération Centre - 4, rue Bémont 1204 Genève - Tél 022 311 75 20



CHOICE 1
A.S. Byatt gives a public reading from her novel, *Babel Tower*
VENUE: Tonight at the Purcell Room



CHOICE 2
The baritone Thomas Allen sings at the Newbury Festival
VENUE: Tonight at the Corn Exchange



CHOICE 3
David Essex's ice show, *Beauty and the Beast*, opens in Northampton
VENUE: All this week at the Deimate



OPERA
In Munich, Tan Dun's *Marco Polo*, to a libretto by Paul Griffiths, receives its first performance

NEW OPERA: Kublai Khan's stately but puzzling pleasure dome; Wilde defiled

Getting lost is half the fun

Marco Polo
Munich Biennale

The Chinese-born (1957) New York resident composer Tan Dun had a stroke of bad luck last year when the Proms premiere of his new piece, *Orchestral Theatre II: Re*, was scotched by that infamous power failure: the Proms will have another go on August 7.

Meanwhile his far longer, more overtly theatrical piece *Marco Polo* was premiered last week at the Munich Biennale. It was originally commissioned by the Edinburgh Festival, and will be performed at the Holland and Hong Kong Festivals before coming to the Scottish capital (no concrete plans yet).

The libretto is by Paul Griffiths, inspired by — rather than specifically drawn from — his elusive, endlessly intriguing novel *Marco Polo*, which played games with time, place and indeed the very idea of the novel. Tan's piece — 110 minutes, without a break — plays similar games with Griffiths and music-theatre.

There are few words; most are in English but some in Chinese or Italian; sentences, even syllables, are fragmented and passed from singer to singer. Drawing on his experience with Peking Opera, Tan uses the extremes of vocal range and vocalises on unlikely syllables, where diction is not a primary concern (for indeed possibility). So audiences should not expect a musico-dramatic experience in any conventional sense.

Instead, text is used as part of a musical fabric, just as Griffiths's toying with a journey that may or may not have taken place is used as the basis



Thomas Young (left), an enormously impressive Polo *père* in Tan Dun's gripping deconstruction of Marco Polo

for quite another kind of journey of exploration — the one the composer himself makes between Eastern and Western music.

A Monteverdian fantasia sits beside Peking Opera patterns. Liturgical chant beside Ligeti-style "skat". There are sudden unison "big tunes", rather after the manner of the *Yellow River Concerto*; there is neo-Rimskyian exoticism, although the precise irony intended in these *Turandot*-in-reverse procedures is hard to fathom.

But there is no doubting the sarcasm of a long quote from the *Drinking Song* (delivered by mezzo rather than tenor) from Mahler's *Song of the Earth*: "No!" shouts the Chinese tenor Shi Zheng Chen (Li Po, doubling Ruschello), and he has to shout it four times before she shuts up.

Marco Polo certainly stretches the term "music theatre": it is reminiscent, rather, of such hybrids as Falla's "scenic cantata" *L'Atlantida*, a musical sound and time-scape

with figures. Within such lack of context (there are no stage directions in the score) Martha Clarke's production was elegantly inventive and, thanks to the designers Debra Booth and Jane Greenwood, beautiful to behold.

Simply as an act of concentration, the singing was enormously impressive, especially from Thomas Young as Polo *père*, and Susan Bord as Water, handling Zerbinetta's coloratura with ease and at one point imitating a lissatone

with uncanny accuracy. The Chinese bass Dong-Jian Gong sang Kublai Khan with perfect gravity.

The composer conducted, ensuring that the musical journey gripped the imagination and unfolded mild, lingering frustration at the lack of conventional dramatic content. The sound-world he created was unique, and dull would be the soul declining the invitation to enter it.

RODNEY MILNES

No way to treat a Wilde creature

The Picture of Dorian Gray
Monte Carlo

ral. But that represents the limit of the American composer's inspiration.

He finally gives himself away and wrecks whatever he has achieved when, at the climax of the opera, Dorian destroys his portrait and dies to an orchestral sound indelibly and distractingly associated with an impressive vista behind one of the doors in Duke Bluebeard's castle. The most promising moment — in an opera destined for first performance at the Princes des Arts in Monte Carlo — is when Liebermann introduces the

Berg treats another popular tune in *Wozzeck*, the independent air eludes him even here.

The other challenge for Liebermann, parallel to that of setting Dorian Gray to music, was making a libretto out of a book which is really a portrait of Oscar Wilde reflected, as he liked to see himself, in the so devastatingly seductive Lord Henry Wotton. Something of his decadent philosophy and one or

song about *The Man who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo*. But as he goes on to treat it in much the same way as

John Cox's production for Monte Carlo Opera compensates to some extent by clearly presenting John Huxford's Lord Henry as Wilde and Jeffrey Lenz's Dorian Gray as his creature. To the same purpose, the conductor, Stuart Bedford, secures elegant singing performances from both of them. But there are obstacles — a rapid suicide aria for Sibyl Vane, a low-life tavern scene, a high-society shooting party — which not even they can overcome.

As for the picture of Dorian Gray, exposed from time to time in Stephen Brimston Lewis's studiously bare artist's studio set, it is marginally more attractive in its final manifestation than in the smugly youthful original.

GERALD LARNER

LONDON

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

TOM KRAUSE The internationally acclaimed Finnish baritone, accompanied by Graham Johnson at the piano, sings Richard Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten*, featuring soprano Sarah Walker and tenor for songs and duets by Britten, Schumann and Mahler. (St. John's, 3rd St. Sq. SW1) (0171-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm.

OPERA SHOWCASE National Opera Studio presents fully-staged excerpts from Puccini's *Tosca*, *Bohème* and *La Traviata*. The *Traviata* features the *La Traviata* quartet, including the soprano Sarah Walker and tenor for songs and duets by Britten, Schumann and Mahler. (St. John's, 3rd St. Sq. SW1) (0171-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Mezey

ELSEWHERE

LIVERPOOL Evelyn Glennie continues her solo tour around Britain, playing a marimba to music by Debussy, Liszt and Schumann. The evening programme of nine pieces includes John. (Postle's Playhouse and Joseph Schwenker's Music) (Postle's Playhouse, 101-101, 700 3789). Tonight, 7.30pm. Next in Glasgow, Royal Concert Hall (0141-227 5511). Friday.

NEWCASTLE The baritone Thomas Allen, with Malcolm Morrison at the piano, gives a celebrity recital as part of the year's 18th International Newbury Spring Festival. The programme features works by Beethoven, Brahms, Mussorgsky, Schubert and Britten. (Newcastle City Hall, 0191-272 2222). Tonight, 7.30pm.

NORTHAMPTON A musical for all ages, featuring the Russian All Stars — continuing 20 former Olympic, World and European

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

Houses full, returns only
Seats at all prices

Barbican Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5056). Mon, 7.45pm. Sat, 8.15pm. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Mon-Sat, 8.15pm.

MUSEUMS Edited from the transcripts of the New West End Theatre, and focusing on the history of the theatre, the play is a production of the National Theatre, directed by Caryl Churchill. (National Theatre, 0171-361 1300). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Sun, 2pm.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Derek Jarman: Artist, Film-Maker, Designer (0171-494 5056). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Sun, 2pm.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

THE PRINCE OF DISHONOUR Cadenot's murky psychological thriller, with John Cullis as the tormented painter, Laurence Bouvard directs (P. Barbra, S. St. Steel EC2) (0171-538 8831). Theatre begins tonight, 7.15pm. Opens May 21, 7pm. Then in rep with *The Relapse*.

Jennai Cox previews a three-part television series which clearly demonstrates why secretaries cannot be typecast

Secret world of secretaries

Miss Moneypenny aside, it is almost impossible to name a well-known secretary. For a job that has transformed the lives of thousands of women, the position has had a very low profile.

A three-part television series exploring the evolution of the secretary and her relationship with the boss hopes to change that. *I'll Just See If He's In*, starting next Tuesday, will shock some, surprise many and inform those whose idea of a secretary is simply an efficient typist.

Emma Willis, the main producer, who spent six months making the first two 40-minute programmes of the series, describes the story that emerges as a "double-edged sword" for women. The job gives them huge opportunities, but is also a role which has proved very hard for some to get out of, she says. Ms Willis set out to make a series which did not shy away from that contradiction.

When the idea was put forward by two BBC secretaries, last year, Ms Willis thought it would be a doddle. "Making the series was extremely demanding. I have never had to speak to so many

people in all my life," she says. "I felt a great responsibility because hardly anything has been done about this subject before. I wanted to do it justice and certainly did not want to offend anyone."

Finding archive material, used in particular for the second programme on the history of the secretary, was one of the most difficult aspects of the research. "It is such an obvious subject and I thought there would be loads of material," Ms Willis says. "We came across lots of documentary footage on miners and other pieces of social history, but nothing on secretaries. I'm sure if it had been a man's job there wouldn't have been a problem."

The world of secretaries remains a relatively difficult one to penetrate, Ms Willis discovered. Dozens of high-profile PAs who lead extremely interesting lives were not prepared to come out into the limelight. "Their work is their livelihood and they are used to being in the background. It was very hard to get people to talk," she says.

Three secretaries and their bosses eventually agreed to participate in the first programme on their relationships. Each pair are on

different working terms; the first treat each other as equals; the second boss employs a secretary to boss her around; and the third pair have a relationship, with the secretary still addressing her boss as Mr Smith.

The first programme goes some way to explain why the male PA has never caught on and why secretaries could never be replaced by machines. Ms Willis says: "People talked to me about the march of technology asking: 'Whither the secretary?' It is all rubbish because the essential relationship has not changed: it's still about human partnerships."

She was struck most by the wide range of people who become secretaries and how much the job varies. "We couldn't make any sort of generalisation as the job seems to have scooped up almost every kind of woman," she says. "There is no equal type of work for men."

This was largely, she discovered while researching its history, because of the narrow range of options for women. The invention of the typewriter turned a once prestigious, male-dominated job into one of machine operator and therefore one which was hand-



Blue-ribbon ladies: Joyce Sarling, Marion Aley-Parker and Audrey Martin — three secretaries who star in the BBC series *I'll Just See If He's In*

ed over to women. By about 1920 the role had been dramatically transformed and companies were able to employ quality women at relatively low wages.

Being a secretary, however, meant something special to the older generation. "They used to train for three years, and they still have the words personal assistant because they think it is pretentious," Ms Willis says. "But now you hardly hear the word secre-

tary: it has lost its meaning." Although she accepts that the secretarial role is still regarded as a subordinate one, she thinks there is nothing wrong with its status. "It is the perception that is the problem," she says. "The fact that the job is so different from person to person and company to company is quite destructive: it is hard to make a profession of something that is so varied."

The third programme focus-

es on five women who wanted a profession and — unlike the men they replaced — had to break out of the secretarial mould to have one. Women, such as Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who started as secretaries, had to fight for something with greater recognition.

Some have fond memories of their time as secretaries while others hated it. Sian Brady, who set up a computer cabling installation company,

now refuses to employ any secretaries.

Ms Willis adds: "I wanted to bring to the fore and say to people: 'Look, this is interesting because this is how women are perceived at work and to a great extent, in society as well.' She thinks this is illustrated by the fact that it has taken women 150 years to bring the secretarial role back to where it started when done by men, as a job with status and prospects."

But she felt it a great privilege to work on a relatively undocumented subject. There were no experts to consult and the only people who talk on the series are secretaries and their bosses. She also eagerly awaits the response from men, particularly those with secretaries of their own. "A lot of them have no idea what their secretaries do all day," Ms Willis says. "I'll Just See If He's In begins on BBC2 on May 21 at 9.45pm."

Tel: 0171 680 6806

La Crème de la Crème

Fax: 0171 782 7586

DENTON HALL

Personnel Assistant

£20K + EXCELLENT BENEFITS · CHANCERY LANE

Denton Hall is a major London-based international law firm with over 200 lawyers at our Chancery Lane headquarters. We pride ourselves on a uniquely friendly and informal atmosphere.

Now we are looking for a flexible, efficient and well-organised team player to join our small but busy Personnel team. In a broad-based administrative support role, you will assist in the smooth day-to-day personnel management of several large departments. It's a chance to get involved in everything from recruitment, training and development through to salary reviews and record-keeping.

Commonsense, a mature approach, good audio and copy typing skills and a proven flair for admin are essential, whilst experience in a legal firm or similar partnership would be an added advantage. Diplomatic communication skills and a helpful telephone manner are also vital, as you will be dealing with people at all levels within the firm. Beyond this, familiarity with Windows based packages is a must, and experience of a personnel database would be useful.

In return, we offer excellent prospects and an attractive salary backed by exceptional benefits including free health insurance, sports club membership, luncheon vouchers and a contributory pension plan (profit-related pay).

This is an ideal opportunity to build a career in personnel. To apply, please write with full CV to:

Nicki Farrant
Personnel Officer
Denton Hall
3 Chancery Lane
Clifford's Inn
London EC4 1BU

MEMBER OF THE DENTON INTERNATIONAL GROUP OF LAW FIRMS

PA to Chief Executive

£25,000 package

Working

This is a responsible position requiring a professional, efficient, commercially aware individual, used to operating at a senior level. Calm, well organised and discreet, you need to be flexible enough to meet the changing requirements of this exciting environment. Duties include controlling all aspects of the office, planning/prioritising of work and checking and verifying information. The ability to understand and evaluate basic financial information is key. You will be 25 plus, experienced in Word 6/7 and a graduate.

Current CV and handwritten letter of application by 22 May 1996 to T. Potter, Cray Systems, 5 Genesis Business Park, Albert Drive, Woking, Surrey GU21 5RW.

Cray

Systems

Chief Executive's Office MAYOR'S SECRETARY

£18,372 - £19,497 p.a. incl.

This is a challenging and interesting opportunity working directly for the Mayor, the first citizen of the London Borough of Ealing. The Mayor has a high profile within the Borough and is the focus of many activities during the term of office. You will have a key role in organising these duties, so that they are carried out properly, and will need to have:

- excellent secretarial skills,
- written and oral communication skills,
- a high level of discretion and sensitivity.

In carrying out these duties, you will need to be able to:

- plan and organise your own work,
- develop an understanding of the work of the Mayor,
- write briefing notes and deal with correspondence,
- meet deadlines while working under pressure.

Ealing positively encourages people with disabilities to apply for posts.

Application forms are obtainable from Ealing Recruitment Link, Ground floor, Percival House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road, London W5 2HL. Telephone: 0181 840 1935 (24 hour answerphone). Please quote reference 448CE. Closing date: 30 May 1996. No CVs please.

Ealing
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER

Circle 33 Housing Trust provides low cost, high quality housing to over 10,000 households in the South East. As one of the largest housing associations in the UK, Circle 33 has a successful track record in urban regeneration and innovative housing projects. It has successfully implemented a programme of change, which ensures a housing service for its tenants which is second to none.

PA to Housing Services Director

c.£18,000

This is a busy and pressurised role which encompasses all aspects of PA work including: advising general assistance to the Housing Services Director by developing an overall knowledge of his activities, ensuring that all matters are dealt with appropriately, particularly in his absence. You will be expected to respond to routine correspondence and enquiries and draft responses to more complex matters. In

addition, you will deal with enquiries from committee members and customers giving relevant information or redirecting as appropriate and at all times projecting a positive image of the Director and the organisation. You will need a minimum of 65wpm typing together with a high standard in audio typing and IT skills. First-class communication skills are also essential as are interpersonal and organisational abilities.

Closing date: 24 May 1996.

For an application form and further information, please telephone the Recruitment Assistant on 0171 283 4102 quoting reference KM/COB/255. CV's will not be accepted. Circle 33 Housing Trust is located at 1-7 Cornhill Street, London EC3R 1JL.

quality homes, quality services



Circle Thirty Three Housing Trust Ltd

Circle 33 Housing Trust is an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all. We will not discriminate on grounds of race, sex, colour or sexual orientation and we particularly welcome applications from people with disabilities.

PA TO CHAIRMAN

c.£30,000

CENTRAL LONDON

An outstanding opportunity has arisen to work for the Chairman/CEO of a highly successful group of companies, providing information technology resourcing and consultancy solutions across Europe and the US.

To apply, you will have previous experience of working at Director level, ideally within a pan-European environment.

You must be able to demonstrate exceptional organisational and communication skills as well as a flexible approach and attitude to your work. Your ideas and business acumen will be vital to the successful management of this demanding and diverse position. Excellent PC skills and shorthand are essential and knowledge of French would be a definite advantage.

Please send your CV to the advising consultant Carol Fletcher at Buckingham Personnel, Orchard Close, West Street, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 2NB. Tel: 01628 481212 Fax: 01628 478877.



PA to Deputy MD

£20,000 plus benefits

Quality, Flexibility and Fun!

An opportunity to join one of Europe's leading contract magazine publishers as PA to the Deputy Managing Director. He is responsible for running publishing operations in UK and Europe and needs someone to organise his diary, type his correspondence and take over all his administrative tasks. Someone who can communicate well with both clients and staff. If you have the experience and the skills, are Mac literate, and are happy to be a hard-working team member in a friendly and informal environment, please send your CV to:

Christina Strupiska
TPD Publishing, Long Island House
1-4 Waple Way, London W3 0BC.

TPD

SECRETARY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER AND HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL

COMPETITIVE SALARY+BANKING BENEFITS CITY OF LONDON

Midland Head Office International is responsible for developing Midland Bank's overseas operations in Europe and Latin America, where over 2500 staff are employed in 24 countries.

A vacancy has arisen for the Secretary to the General Manager and Head of International.

This dynamic role requires the provision of a full secretarial and support service with responsibility for ensuring the smooth running and workflow of the secretarial resource.

The successful candidate will be confident and assertive with a high level of initiative and organisational skills, plus the ability to produce accurate work, often to tight deadlines.

Proficiency in shorthand is essential, as is computer literacy in Word for Windows.

Previous experience in a similar senior secretarial role would be a distinct advantage.

This challenging opportunity to make a major contribution to the running of a busy office includes a benefits package commensurate with that of a leading international bank.

If you have the expertise and experience to contribute to our success, please forward your CV including current salary details to:

Milton Ives
Human Resources Manager International
Midland Bank plc
1st Floor, St Magnus House
3 Lower Thames Street
London EC3R 6HA



We are an equal opportunities employer

PA TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

Bright, Able, Ambitious

City

c£20k + benefits

Our client is a medium-sized, well-established company involved in world-wide transportation, based in the City.

The Role

You will be the MD's 'right hand', his 'eyes and ears'. Along with the usual secretarial duties, you will interact closely with company personnel and customers.

The Person

Probably 30+ years of age, you will possess the requisite secretarial skills, WP, shorthand, etc. that place you in the secretarial elite. In addition you must be computer literate, have an excellent memory and your presentation and social skills must be impeccable.

This position offers limitless potential for a motivated achiever. The company operates a no-smoking policy.

If you can meet the challenge, please send your CV and a covering letter, to: Miall FitzGerald, Mercuri Urval, Spencer House, 29 Grove Hill Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3BN, Fax: 0181 861 1978, quoting reference NDF/EL/03.

Mercuri Urval

EXECUTIVE ROLES

One of our most prestigious clients in the City seeks the following:

CHAIRMAN'S PA

£25,000 + Exc Bens. If you have fluent Spanish / French (SH useful) and a banking background this is a truly exciting opportunity for you!

MARKETING ASSISTANT

£20,000 + Exc Bens. Admin, sec and presentation support for an intelligent, creative person with a knowledge of languages.

ECCO

Tel: 0171 920 0888
ECCO Employment
4 Moorfields, EC2
Fax: 0171 638 3567

SHORTHAND PA/SEC FILM/ADVERTISING

c£20,000

The Senior Vice-President of Advertising and Publicity of this major int'l company needs a superb shorthand Secretary/PA. He requires someone with a mature and extremely professional, calm and flexible approach, to respond to his ever changing priorities. Senior level secretarial experience, shorthand of at least 110wpm and knowledge of Windows are essential requirements for this demanding position. Benefits include staff discounts, free tickets to film premieres and pre-screenings.

Please call, or fax CV's. Fax: 0171 222 2838/Tel: 0171 222 3838.

Harriet Gabb
RECRUITMENT

CREME DE LA CREME

City Receptionist
to £15,500 & benefits

Highly successful investment company with a reputation for excellence seeks a professional and immaculately presented receptionist to create that all important first impression. Duties include meeting and greeting visitors, answering the telephone, booking and handling incoming calls, and ensuring the smooth running of the office. Senior level experience within a financial or business organisation is essential. Skills: 80/60, 100wpm typing, excellent verbal and written communication skills. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill

Senior PA
12 month contract
to £24,000 & bonus

International reinsurance company requires a self-motivated and highly organised PA to support the Chief Operating Officer on a contract beginning in July. Acting as his right hand assistant you will provide full secretarial and administrative support, liaise with senior management internationally and oversee the smooth running of the office. Senior level experience within a financial or business organisation is essential. Skills: 80/60, 100wpm typing, excellent verbal and written communication skills. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill

A Superb Opportunity
£18,000 + benefits
Age 22-30

This is a great position for an enthusiastic secretary who would enjoy being a linchpin for a busy team. Working for a European Bank, you will be providing secretarial support to two Directors and in addition have a number of your own projects to co-ordinate including wine tasting evenings, rugby days and charity Go-Karting! You should be on the ball, enjoy using your own initiative and capable of taking on senior level. Skills: 50wpm typing and word for windows. Please call Vanessa Mitchell on 0171-390 7000.

Crone Corkill

RECEPTIONISTS TAKE YOUR PICK
of bookings either on a long term on-going basis or shorter term. You will need to be immaculately presented and have reception/switchboard experience. For an immediate interview please call Rachel Beard at Tate Appointments on 0171 408 0424

PA/SECRETARY

Mayfair-based, newly formed property consultancy/agency is seeking a senior secretary who will help establish, and hold together, the new office with efficiency and style. The person appointed will provide a full secretarial service to the Managing Director and will be responsible for the day to day running of the office. This post represents an exciting opportunity for personal growth and development within a group of dynamic professionals. A high level of computer literacy is essential. Salary: £18,000 - £20,000 plus bonus. Please Reply to Box No 5971

JOBS WITH A DIFFERENCE...
to £30,000

25K - OUTSTANDING PA/OFFICE MANAGER - To run this busy, dynamic international office. Scope for involvement, responsibility, decision making. Must be bright, proactive, enjoy a challenge and capable of taking on a demanding role. Age 24-44.
17.5K - ONLY 30% SECRETARIAL - Property Management Co is looking for a diplomatic, friendly, outgoing PA who is proactive, persuasive and thrives on problem solving. Juggling priorities. Age 20-40.
16.5K - PUBLICITY/PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Career move for bright PA with 60/80 to join this international organisation. Must enjoy using initiative and writing own press releases.
15K - 6 MONTHS EXPERIENCE - Graduate calibre candidate to work as Marketing Assistant in this well known co. Prof Powerpoint, Excel, Word for Windows. Career prospects.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES E

0171 235 8427

INVESTMENT BANKING
£16,000 to £22,000 + Package

Our client is searching for two flexible Team Secretaries to work in a lively, fast-paced environment. You will need a strong, confident personality, excellent telephone manner, and first class communication skills. Minimum typing 65 wpm and in-depth knowledge powerpoint essential. Please ring MITCHELL YOUNG ASSOCIATES 0171 588 3055 Rec Cons.

AMBITIOUS PA

£19-21K + All bank bens (mtg, bonus, etc, gym, etc.) A young, highly energetic, totally professional and well organised Secretary is urgently needed to assist the head of Investment Banking at a well known UK investment bank. Must be capable of taking on full responsibility, have really confident communication skills and be a team player. There is definitely scope to develop this role. A high level of commitment, an intelligent approach and total professionalism essential. Call Emily Aldrich Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8996

CORPORATE FINANCE SECRETARY TO MD

Senior PA required for busy corporation. In this exciting role you will assist 60 wpm typing/MS Office experience and proven secretarial qualifications. You will also have excellent communication skills, confidence, energy and enthusiasm. Banking/financial experience essential. Call Mitchell Young Associates Rec. Cons. 0171 588 3055.

PA TO MD

West End based property company active in the UK and Europe. The Managing Director is seeking a high calibre personal assistant for a varied and challenging role, dealing with clients as well as business matters. Excellent secretarial skills, good telephone manner, and willingness to work long hours are essential. The successful candidate will remain calm under pressure and have the experience to handle a wide range of issues at a senior level. Salary in the region of £20,000 per annum, subject to qualifications and experience. Please reply to Sandy Watson, 63 Charter Square, London SW1W 9EA Tel: 0171 730 7730, or fax CV on 0171 396 0106.

We have recently won a major new contract with a blue-chip city firm and require high calibre staff to work at all levels, from Partner's PA to Group Secretary.

All positions require dynamic, intelligent and quality oriented professionals with strong secretarial skills and previous experience of working in a demanding environment. In return, your expertise and commitment will be rewarded with an excellent salary and full benefits package. For more information, please call or write to Emma Hoddell, Contract Supervisor, Manpower PLC, 4 - 8 Ludgate Circus, London EC4M 7LD. Tel: 0171 353 7684, Fax: 0171 353 2003.

IMMEDIATE MORTGAGE SUBSIDY!!!

£15,000 + Benefits
S/H Banking Secretary to work for Finance Team. You'll need a sense of humour, these people are fun! Opportunity for plenty of paid CPD. Previous city experience an advantage but not essential. If you want to work with the best, call 0171 377 8850.

CROSS SELECTION

PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO M.D.

A vacancy has arisen for a full time Personal Assistant/Secretary to the M.D. of an International Recruitment Company located in Park Royal, NW10. The applicant will need to be highly motivated self-starter with a minimum of 3 years previous experience of Director level. Scope of work will involve Personnel and Marketing for this multi-national organisation. Applicants will need diplomacy, tact, discretion and the ability to compile responses to correspondence on behalf of the M.D. Excellent shorthand and keyboard skills are essential. Salary and package are negotiable but will be commensurate with this senior level appointment. If you are aged between 25 and 35 years, and are interested in this challenging role, please send your CV, marked Private and Confidential, to Chris Baker/Lynne O'Leary, Headhunting Limited, 3-5 Camberland Avenue, London NW10 7BU. Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

PROFICIENT SECRETARY

For busy City-based Secretary practice in EC2. To work and run a small office with two partners and a Consultant. Excellent secretarial and organisational skills required with good telephone manner and ability to deal with clients. Very good knowledge of accounts and email an advantage. Excellent opportunity for a motivated and professional. Property experience preferred. CVs to be sent to: 0171 632 621 or 0171 632 620

PA CHALLENGE! £20K + BENS

For highly successful City Co of Award Winning Software. Working for Chief Exec & MD, also running Reception area. Graduate/A level with exp at MD level, with Windows (50wpm), exc organising skills and able to prioritise. No two days the same, with CPD going around & liaising with clients, hectic diaries, and confidential work. Definitely a challenge! Tel 439 1188 Rec Cons. GALE ASSOCS

FOUR WEEKS TO

Crème 96
12-14 JUNE

Conference and meeting organisation, as well as sourcing venues, is integral part to the role of many secretaries and PAs. Over 60 different hotels, conference venues, venue finders, conference organisers and trainers will be present at Crème '96 with information on their facilities and advice to aid you with all your requirements.

Crème 96
12-14 JUNE

Prestigious hotels exhibiting at the show from all over the UK and Europe, include Cyprus Premier Hotels, Castle Ashby, Grand Heritage Hotels, Hilton International Group, Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza London Heathrow, International Hotels, Radisson Edwardian Hotels and the Independent Hotel Consortium. Specialists in booking accommodation and finding hotels include Hotel Desk and Expotel Hotel Reservations.

Crème 96
12-14 JUNE

Bath Conference Bureau, Cambridge Tourist Information, International Convention Centre in Birmingham, Commonwealth Conference and Event Centre in London, Conference Nottingham, Leicestershire Conference Bureau and Portsmouth Conference Office are just some of the conference centres which will have details of their facilities. Organisations such as BACT - British Association of Conference Towns, The Venue Resource Group and The Venue Directory, will also provide material on the services they offer.

Crème 96
12-14 JUNE

To find out more about the above companies and many more, visit Crème '96 from 12-14 June, at London's Olympia 2. Entrance is free-of-charge. For full conference, seminar and pre-registration details, call 01923 244555. Read next week's Crème de la Crème to discover some of the office product suppliers and business technology specialists exhibiting at the show.

JOIN US!
OUTSTANDING IMMEDIATE NEW JOBS
UP TO £10.00 PH
START NOW!

0171 390 7000 City 0171 431 4512 West End

Crone Corkill

MISON RECRUITMENT

PA SECRETARIES CHAIRMAN & DIRECTOR LEVEL to £27,000 BANKING PACKAGE

One of the world's leading Investment Banks have requested we recruit two Senior Secretaries to work as Chairman and Director level. As part of an elite team of support staff, you will have total involvement at the highest level in a client driven environment where approximately 60% of your duties will include extensive diary management, organising meetings, travel, corporate and social events. You will be self motivated, well educated and able to evidence superb skills with 3-5 years previous senior secretarial experience ideally gained within the Corporate Finance, Banking or Asset Management. Key skills include advanced Microsoft Word proficiency on Apple/Mac and excellent shorthand and typing. Desirable skills include Powerpoint, Excel and E-Mail. In return you will be rewarded with the security and prestige offered by this outstanding organisation. Please telephone Frances Sharkey in confidence for a mutually convenient appointment.

Fax: 0171 583 1784 Fax: 0171 583 3133

0171 583 5441

YOUR PASSPORT TO SUCCESS

Pan European's permanent team can not be beaten on its Banking and Insurance secretarial vacancies. This is just a taste of what we can offer you.

- Trading Floor Secretaries - Previous Experience £22k
- Emerging Markets - Banking exp & European languages £21k
- Personal Secretary - Steady CV £20k
- PA in Investment Banking - No Banking exp £20k
- Compliance - Admin/Sec £19k
- Secretary Credit Risk - Very friendly team £19k
- Senior Front Secretary - 80 wpm Shorthand £19k
- Equity Research Secretaries - Previous Banking exp £18k
- Corporate Finance Secretary - No Shorthand £18k
- Corporate Finance Secretary - With Shorthand £18k
- Admin Assistant - Treasury Department £18k
- Team Secretary - Non Marine £18k
- Trading Floor - College leaver £18k
- Junior Shorthand Secretary - Conversational French £14k
- Compliance - College leaver £14k

SUCCESSFUL TEMPING

Simply the best
Use your skills
Professional services
Enjoyable assignments
Regular contact
Immediate requirements
Opportunities galore
Realistic promises

If you have good shorthand and audio skills, are aged between 20-40 and have a good working knowledge of Windows packages - its time we talked to you.

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT
0171 734 8484
Fax: 0171 734 5501

WEDNESDAY 15TH MAY 1998
WHAT ARE YOU DOING BETWEEN 10 AM - 6 PM?
LOOKING FOR WORK?

Why not come and find out about the exciting opportunities available at Manpower. In return for your excellent secretarial skills we can offer you a choice of the latest positions and an unbeatable benefits package. We also offer free cross training to help keep you up to date with all the latest software. For a friendly and professional approach call in and see us today at: Manpower PLC, 13-15 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge, London SW3 1ED. Alternatively telephone us immediately on 0171 589 2448 for an appointment.

MANPOWER There's more for you

Where else can you collect AIR MILES awards just for doing your job?
0171-390 7000

Crone Corkill
Temporary Recruitment

PA £18,000 MAYFAIR

Two senior partners in high profile leading financial services company require a PA. We work hard in a lively environment and need someone to run our lives. You must be computer literate, highly organised and have excellent secretarial skills. Industry experience would be helpful. Please send your CV plus hand written letter to: Mrs Christina Gavin 9-13 Grosvenor Street LONDON W1X 9FB

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CONSULTANCY

require self motivated well presented responsible PA age 25-35 for Project Finance Manager. Must have strong administrative skills and W/W skills, knowledge of Powerpoint would be an advantage. Attractive package + Private Medical Insurance. Please send CV with hand written covering letter to: Rachel Milne, Masters House, 107 Hammersmith Road, London, W14 0QH

ALBANY APPOINTMENTS

NEWSPAPER - FINANCE PA £20K
General involvement is required by Financial Controller of major Newspaper House who seeks experienced PA/Assistant. An excellent & interesting financial position is available as the role will develop & utilise your knowledge & abilities. Min 50wpm/VP exp.

EXECUTIVE LIAISON £21K
Intelligent & professional 'communicator' needed to assist with coordination of all executive benefits - and compensations - salaries, shares, BUPA, etc. You'll be Lynch pin in team of 3, supporting Director and Managing Director at senior level throughout blue chip plc. Exc. sec/WP skills essential.

Call Albany Appointments 0171 493 8611

SECRETARY TO THE CHAIRMAN

£19,000 pa + bonus
The Chairman of the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) requires a first class, bright, experienced secretary for five months to cover maternity leave. Fast accurate typing (70wpm); shorthand and spreadsheets (Excel) an advantage. Own projects. Possibility of transferring to permanent position in this dynamic expanding educational travel organisation. Salary £1,583 per month plus completion bonus of £1,500. Write, enclosing CV, to Mary Eaton, AIFS, 37 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5ER (No agencies)

CITY BANKING/FINANCE

MARKETING ASSISTANT (ADV PAGEMAKER) £20,000
HR. SECRETARY (L/T TEAM) £15,000
JNR SEC GO WIND TRADING FLOOR £15,000
JNR SEC INT CITY TRADING DESK £13,000
JNR/INT JOBBER SW7 FINANCE CO £14,000
DTP/SEC TO ECONOMIST £18,000
GERMAN SPK SEC C/F £17,000
RESEARCH SEC £19,000
TRADING ASSIST/SEC TREASURY £20,000
PAGEMAKER, MS OFFICE, ILLUSTRATOR £19,000

ALL ROLES REQ GOOD SECRETARIAL SKILLS AND PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IDEALLY WITHIN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR.

Tel: 0171 929 1281 Fax: 0171 621 0985

FORUM HOUSE
15-18 LINDA STREET
LONDON EC3M 7AP

WE HAVE 100's OF CABIN CREW VACANCIES WITH 12 MAJOR AIRLINES - WITH OUR HELP YOU COULD BE FLYING VERY SOON -

If you are serious about a flying career we can help - you could join the 1000's of successful people we've already helped to become cabin crew over the last 8 years with over 25 airlines. We offer:

- LICENSED CABIN CREW PLACEMENT SERVICE
- ONE DAY PRE-AIRLINE TRAINING AT 6 UK VENUES
- AVIATION EDUCATIONAL BOOKS/ASSESSMENTS

To succeed you will need the VERY BEST help: with the 100's of vacancies we have our experience and success can help you NOW - call us TODAY and tomorrow you could be reaching for the skies! A.I.C. HOUSE, GROVE PARK COURT, HARGOATE HGT 4DP. TEL: 01423 536904 (MULTILINES) FAX: 01423 536905

PA/SECRETARY TO BOARD DIRECTOR BLUE CHIP COMPANY

The successful applicant for this position will have involvement on the business side of the highest level and responsibility for all matters. Duties will include extensive diary management, travel and meeting arrangements. Generally require a varied and very busy life. Based in the London executive suite of this company, a good team spirit, some of humour, excellent secretarial skills (100/60/Windows) and flexibility are required. Age 30-50 years. Please apply by writing, enclosing C.V. to Box No 5974

RECEPTIONIST/Admin.

Back-up, Casualty WFL, 30/40 Typ. WP. Friendly office. Tel: 0171 379 8333 Fax: 0171 579 8113

MACKELL'S ESTATE AGENTS

Secretary required by Chelsea Estate Agents, W9W and shortlisted interview. Tel: 0171 581 2316

LIVELY & INTELLIGENT SECRETARY

Seeking by expanding firm of solicitors in Swiss Cottage. We are looking for a secretary to work in the commercial/trading field. Legal experience not essential. Possibility with WordPerfect (DOS/Windows) preferred. Please send CV to Ann Mackell, 5 Broadhurst Gardens, London NW6 3QX

Covent Garden

£16-18,000 + exc bens
Team up with two high achieving senior analysts in a well established and expanding management company in W1. Your contribution is essential to their success, presentations and international travel as well as trying to keep track of their ever shifting priorities and minefield of a diary! This is an excellent opportunity for you to become more involved in the business and have greater responsibility. If you have A-levels, Word for Windows and Excel and feel you are ready to take on a pair of busy people and organise them, please call Esther Marden on 0171-434 4512.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

INVESTMENT BANKING £16,000 to £22,000 + Package

Our client is searching for two flexible Team Secretaries to work in a lively, fast-paced environment. You will need a strong, confident personality, excellent telephone manner, and first class communication skills. Minimum typing 65 wpm and in-depth knowledge powerpoint essential. Please ring MITCHELL YOUNG ASSOCIATES 0171 588 3055 Rec Cons.

هكذا من الأصل

CREME DE LA CREME

RICH PICKINGS

Is finding a rewarding, well paid temp job, like finding a needle in a haystack? Do you want to earn up to £10 per hour and take your pick from a crop of temp assignments ranging from International Investment banks to corporate PR agencies. If you have 55wpm and solid experience using two or more current word processing packages, then please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcome.

PA/SECRETARY

Up to £32K

An internationally renowned Entrepreneur, with an innovative approach to Property Development, has an exciting opportunity for a computer literate, mature, secure secretary. This West End based position requires a bright, highly competent, experienced and intelligent PA/Secretary to participate in the day to day running of a busy office. The successful applicant will have held a Chairman level position and will have experience in Property Development and/or Legal environments. Moreover, you must have strong communication skills and be able to work for this prestigious business person. Advanced word processing ability required. Skills: 60wpm typing and W4W. Please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcome.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

£25K

The Chief Executive of a leading communications consultancy is looking for an outstanding PA to work with him during a period of extensive international growth. As he is usually travelling, this is a job for a PA used to working on her own initiative who can draft and sign off correspondence, represent him to clients and research and attend meetings. You will be working on potential acquisitions, developing overseas affiliates and subsidiaries as well as marketing new clients and devising future strategies for existing ones. Strong interpersonal skills are essential, languages - especially German and French and willingness to travel within the UK would be very useful. Skills: 100/40. Please call:

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcome.

TRADING FLOOR

£22K plus banking bonus

Our client, a large European Investment bank, is looking for a dynamic secretary who will rise to the challenge of working on a busy trading floor. With at least 18 months experience, preferably in a financial environment, you will not be phased by the pace and volume of work that you will encounter. You will provide comprehensive administrative support to a sales desk and act as a PA to two directors. Resilience, humour and initiative combined with expert secretarial and IT skills will ensure your success in this position. An immediate start would be welcomed. Please call:

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcome.

TRADING PLACES

An exciting opportunity exists within an International Trading Company. Working with a team of highly motivated, dynamic people you should enjoy a fast moving, busy environment and be flexible and outgoing. The position requires a knowledge of Charter Parties or some shipping experience as well as good administrative and organisational skills. If you are proficient on Word Perfect for Windows and have good secretarial skills please call

Angela Mortimer

0171 814 0800

Angela Mortimer is an equal opportunities employer. All applicants are positively welcome.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT

SALARY + BENS + COMMISSION + CAR
Due to the enormous success of our growing secretarial division, an opening has arisen for a Recruitment Consultant with a minimum of eighteen months relevant experience. This position will complement an established team based in our prestigious City Office. The ideal candidate will be aged 24-30, assertive, professional and dynamic.

Please contact Lindsey Morgan.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

PERSONNEL PA

TO £24,000 + MS + BENS
A polished PA with either a personnel or banking background is urgently sought by this prestigious Investment Bank. The position will incorporate extensive telephone liaison, diary management and admin duties. The ideal candidate will be aged 25 - 33 with a solid work history and 100 wpm shorthand.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

WEST END PA/ SECRETARIES x 5

TO £20,000 + MS + BENS
One of London's leading Investment Banks has several exciting openings for professional well educated secretaries (minimum 5 GCSE's). The positions range from Junior Secretarial roles through to senior Director level opportunities in Legal, Research and Investment Banking.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

SECOND JOBBERS x 2

TO £18,000 + MS + BENS
Two immediate openings exist for secretaries with banking experience to work within two of London's leading banks. The first position is to work on the trading floor and will incorporate extensive admin duties and the second position is to work within Equity Capital markets and necessitates strong Powerpoint skills.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

CORPORATE FINANCE PA

TO £25,000 PACKAGE
A leading Investment Bank has an immediate opening for a PA/Secretary with a banking background to work for two senior Directors. The position will incorporate extensive administrative responsibilities of diary management and travel co-ordination. The ideal candidate will be aged 25-33 with a solid work history.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

SECRETARY/PA

Outplacement Consultants,
Friendly office WCL. Audio/Video. Flexible team player.
Tel: 0171 259 6999

SECRETARY

LONDON W1
Audio secretary to work for two friendly partners. Good telephone manner essential. Wordperfect 5.1 salary £15,000 per annum. 0171 486 0490.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

A competent and personable person required for busy professional office adjacent to Harrods. Salary negotiable. Apply with CV to Andrew Bishop 0171 228 0023. Fax 0171 228 4191

P/A SEC FOR DIRECTORS

EXPANDING PROPERTY GROUP HARLEY STREET W1 SALARY £18K (24 HRS) 0171 264 2112

MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY

GRAPHICS SECS £16,000p/yr. Assist young dynamic client team with highly successful US Co. Assist on presentations, layout, etc. client contact. Graphics exp. 40wpm typ, free lunch, 9am-5pm, 22.5 hrs. VAL WADE SEC CONS 0171 437 3791

CAREER PA Exceptional Salary

Successful & rapidly expanding international company is seeking an outstanding PA with solid experience gained at the highest level ideally in a small company environment. Probably in your early 30's with a degree and a good business mind, you will use your diplomacy, organisational and motivational skills to act as an executive assistant to the MD who will involve you in every aspect of his work. If you are numerate, confident and are looking for your own projects and responsibility this is the challenge you are waiting for. Sound knowledge of Microsoft Office essential.

Please call Sharon on 0171 437 6032 for more details.

Consider Yourself a 'Top Temp'...

We are one of London's leading temping agencies and we have a varied client base which requires professional and flexible 'top' secretaries and receptionists. If you have 55wpm, audio or shorthand and know one or more of the following systems we would love to hear from you:

- Word for Windows/Wordperfect for Windows/Ami Pro/Word on Apple/Mac
- Powerpoint/Freehand
- Lotus/Excel
- Switchboards

We pay up to £10 per hour. For an appointment call WESTENDS Ltd, Holly, Gillingham, 0171 437 6033. CITY Joyce, Lisa, Victoria, Kim 0171 377 9919. AND CONSIDER YOURSELF A HOBSTONES TEAM!

HOBSTONES

PA in Training/Media to £18,500 + bens

If you're looking for your first one to one role at Director level in a fun and friendly environment look no further! One of London's top Publishing and Training companies require a PA for a Group Director and you'll be creating presentations, liaising with senior people and holding the fort in his absence. You'll need to be intelligent with professional and discreet manner. Word for Windows and 55wpm typing are a must. Call Caroline Gales in the West End.

PA to Managing Director £20,000

This successful worldwide shipping company seeks an experienced and enthusiastic PA, capable of handling correspondence, arranging extensive travel itineraries, diary management and acting as a company ambassador. Experience within the shipping industry would be beneficial but it is not essential. With a minimum of 2 years experience at senior PA level, plus shorthand 90wpm min and typing 55wpm, this role will utilise your energy and organisational skills offering you the ability to become an integral part of the company. Call Sharon Hawkins in the West End.

West End: 0171 437 6032
Victoria House, 99-101 Regent Street, London W1R 7UB

RECRUITMENT

Banking on Success! £18-24,000 + Exc Pkge

Exciting opportunities within a prestigious worldwide investment bank for secretaries with the drive and dedication to succeed. If you can work and play with the best, the fabulous benefits include mortgage sub, paid o/time, bonus, non-conc pension, restaurant, free travel, gym and more.

● Secretary with German ● PA in Personnel
● Trading Floor Secretary ● Secretary in LT
● Secretary in Legal

For more information, on the above positions please call Nicola Gales in the City.

Senior Secretary £18,000 + benefits

This is an opportunity to work for one of the Directors + his team in a major US investment Bank. You must have excellent organisational skills and provide a 1.1 secretarial service along with a team, orientated attitude. Senior level liaison, Word for Windows, Excel and copy typing are required. Please call Annabel Bingham in the City.

City: 0171 377 9919
29 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PS

RECRUITMENT

TEMP SECRETARIES!

TO £10.00 PER HOUR

This prestigious City Bank is presently seeking two lively confident, young secretaries with experience of working in the dealing room. Word, Excel and Powerpoint experience is essential.

In addition the Bank requires a bright, polished secretary to work in their Private Banking department. Software packages as above.

Please contact Debra Berry.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd,
No.1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 626 1242

secretaries

PA/OFFICE MANAGER £25,000 neg PROPERTY COMPANY

Professional, well presented PA (30+) needed for the Chief Executive of a highly successful business based in smart WE offices. Excellent organisational and secretarial skills (shorthand + W6/Microsoft Office) Ability to communicate, manage others and use own initiative to ensure running of the office essential.

Please send your c.v. to
Mrs Zena Bellow
130 Jermyn Street, St James's
London SW1Y 4UJ

We are looking to recruit experienced professional smart PA's/Secretaries with excellent communication skills to fill long and short term assignments for our constantly expanding client base.

Current Vacancies

Methodical efficient PA aged 25-35 with shorthand of 80-100 is required to assist Senior Director of leading City company. Must be fully experienced organising an extensive travel and diary itinerary.

HR Assistant - 6 months+. An excellent opportunity for an experienced secretary to work in the busy Human Resources department of this leading US Bank 80% administration and 20% of involvement - Start Monday. PA in media - a challenging position assisting with all aspects of corporate events - essential qualities a pro-active, dynamic personality, 50wpm typing, MS Word for Windows and Powerpoint. Long term position, temp to perm. Start immediately.

Pressing secretary to work for exciting project. Pressured and varied position. Lotus Freelance, Word and fast accurate typing essential. Possibility of shift work to suit - Long ongoing assignment.

For further information call Trisha Brooks or Sarah Martin on 0171 437 9411 Centre Point Agcy.

SHEILA CHILDS RECRUITMENT

TAX FREE SALARY Based overseas, worldwide travel will be an integral part of the job. As a premier class PA you will be unfazed by time zones, without time, able to bring your own clearly-defined style to the existing glamour of the job, adding the strands in the busy life of an international business man. Age 25-37.

£25,000 - Mayfair This is a vibrant role for a Personal Secretary per se. You must thrive on pace and be expert at juggling a multitude of tasks. Your skills of 90/80 must be well honed. Age 35 upwards.

£22,000 Be part of this success story of the 90's where team effort is a watchword. The company is young exciting and from time. The schedule is hectic and the MD needs a minder. Skills 90/80. Age 25-35.

4 Ganton Street, London W1
Telephone: 0171 437 3111 Fax: 0171 437 4050

MULTI-LINGUAL OPPORTUNITIES

ALL-ROUNDER in major busy language business. An organised, proactive & resourceful individual with good typing, admin and communication skills. Salary £12-14k. Minimum 5 years exp. 0171 836 3724

FRENCH & ITALIAN

RECEPTION SECRETARY TO £15,000 AAE. Sought by small, friendly Design Group in SW6 to assist at Director level. Would suit bright, confident personality. Fluency in both lang. 35 wpm typ. 10-12 hrs. The Language Business (Rec Cont) 0171 379 3189

JAMES ALLEN'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL HEADMASTER'S PA

This is a high profile post in one of London's best-known independent preparatory schools. Bright, resourceful and diplomatic, the postholder will have excellent office management and interpersonal skills and enjoy dealing with children and adults. Keyboard skills essential (Microsoft Office - full training available if required).

Employment will start in September 1996 and will be full-time for 44 weeks per year (term time plus some holiday working) and 4 weeks' paid holiday. Salary in the range £15K-£17K pension, reduced tuition fees for children, lunch during term time.

Please send a handwritten letter of application to the Headmaster together with a curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees. Closing date: Friday 24th May 1996

James Allen's Preparatory School, East Dulwich Grove, London SE22 8TE
Tel: 0181 693 0374

Which one are you Banking on?

Two first-class opportunities to continue your secretarial career in a blue chip company. Essential skills are Microsoft Word, 90 wpm shorthand, 85 wpm typing

£21,000 - £23,000
Minimum of 5 years senior level experience required.

£18,000 - £20,000
Minimum of 3 years senior level experience required.

Both of these high profile positions offer full PA involvement, daily challenges and variety. If you are team orientated and calm under pressure please call Sarah Dale or Annabel Bingham on 0171 377 9919.

RECRUITMENT

Assistant to Managing Director Herts, M25 £20-25k

Opportunity for intelligent, committed person with Secretarial/Admin background and excellent written communication skills to work closely with founder of highly successful International Software House. Previous experience required, but interest in getting involved in all aspects of the job more important. This may mean occasional long hours facing challenging situations. Patience, determination, eagerness to learn and loyalty are the prime qualities looked for. These will be rewarded by an excellent salary and high job satisfaction for the right person. To apply, send CV to: Lynda Stephens, Cyberspace plc, Revolve House, High Street, Huddersfield, Herts EN11 8BD. Fax: 01992 442740.

SECRETARY

City based venture capital firm requires Secretary to work for three directors in busy office. Using Word 6, there is a considerable amount of typing, both copy and audio. Shorthand is a requirement.

We are able to offer a very competitive package including interest free travel loan, luncheon vouchers, and pension.

In first instance, please send your details to:

The Office Manager
Brown Shipley Venture Managers Ltd
Founders Court, Lothbury
London EC2R 7HE

Judy Farquharson Ltd.

PA/OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR TO DIRECTOR
To assist in the smooth running of central London professional food business, working for highly skilled academic director. Organizational/secretarial skills and ability to work in fast paced, busy environment essential. Salary £18-20k. (no agency fees)

47 New Bond St. London W1Y 9HA
TEL: 0171-493 8824 Fax: 0171-493 7161

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

EXECUTIVE RECEPTIONIST £18k
Excellent opportunity to join leading outplacement consultancy in SW1. Must have min 4 yrs front line exp. Call Nicola Milner on 0171 499 8112 or Fax your CV on 0171 499 8115 (Recruit Agcy)

Banking Secs

£20-24,000

Banking experience preferred but not essential for a variety of vacancies in a leading investment house. Tasks include Trading Floor, IT, Audit & Compliance. Investment, Corporate Services, Legal & Personnel. All require good secretarial skills and a steady hand. Recent. All banking benefits offered. Call: 0171 492 2888

HERITAGE RECRUITMENT

Travel

£18,000

The Managing Director of this expanding corporate and holiday travel company is seeking a PA who has bags of initiative as well as a creative streak to put together corporate presentations and organize his frantic life. He is a very sociable animal - this is not a role for a shrinking violet. Good perks. Call: 0171 492 2888

HERITAGE RECRUITMENT

The Carousel Consultancy Ltd

CHAIRMAN'S PA £23,000 + bonus
Interesting but non-pressure role as Chief Executive with wide ranging interests including sport, banking and property. Duties include senior level liaison, 60 wpm, W4W and audio cassette, if needed. Free meal and 10% discount.

OFFICE MANAGER/PA £20,000
Growing Dobbies on needs a self-motivated all-rounder to set up systems, support sales staff, organize seminars and produce management accounts. Must have good sec. and computer skills and be able to work on own initiative.

Recruit Chambers, The Plaza, Covent Garden, London
Tel: 0171 246 2833

MUSIC PUBLISHERS

IN SMALL BUSY SW1 OFFICE
needs capable, friendly secretary. Minimum 30wpm typing. Willingness to learn. £12,000 neg. + bonus. Please send clearly typed CV. 0171 235 9046 (no agency fees)

All Box number replies

should be addressed to:
BOX No: 100
The Times
P.O. BOX 5853,
Virginia Street,
London E1 9NA

RAGLAN PROPERTIES plc

Raglan Properties plc is an expanding £150m property company based in Savile Row, W1.

The Company wishes to appoint a

PA/SECRETARY TO PROPERTY INVESTMENT MANAGER

We are looking for an intelligent and committed candidate who is flexible, accurate and able to organise a team of 2 busy executives. Good audio WP skills (Word & Excel) the ability to think ahead and prioritise are essential. Previous experience in the property sector is an advantage. We offer a competitive salary and package. Please reply with CV to:
Caroline Landers
Raglan Properties plc
6 Savile Row, London W1X 1AF
Fax Number: 0171 208 0638

Abstract

Timeshare tears increase

**Rachel Kelly
on new rules
to protect
timeshare
customers**

Complaints against aggressive timeshare operators are on the increase. Figures are up by 50 per cent, according to the Timeshare Helpline. Touts are resorting to new ploys in a last effort to sell their wares before tough European Union laws are introduced next year.

The Timeshare Helpline reports about 30 complaints a week in resorts in Spain, the Canaries and the Balearics. These areas have no effective legislation to protect timeshare buyers against controversial selling methods, as there is no cooling-off period in force. This number of complaints is almost twice the figure received a year ago, in proportion to the number of resorts where touts are operating.

Touts are trying new ways to tempt consumers, says Lesley Leighton from the Helpline: "They now don't say they are timeshare companies, but say they are sponsored by credit companies. Nobody admits it is a timeshare presentation... they will say something like, 'You've won a holiday... come and see this hotel complex'."

The levels of deposits which can potentially be lost have also risen. Previously, consumers stood to lose several hundred pounds; now the sums are around the £1,000 mark, Ms Leighton says.

Several timeshare operators are offering to arrange for consumers' homes to be re-mortgaged to help to pay for the timeshare. They promise they will pay such low interest rates that new mortgages will be cheaper than consumers' current ones, even with the timeshare included.

Atlas Balear, which operates in Mallorca and Gran Canaria, has offered new mortgages with the Leicester-based Mortgage Advice Centre and told customers that



HOW ONE COUPLE WERE TEMPTED TO BUY

CAROLYN and Richard Seife (above) were in Alcudia when Atlas Balear sold them a timeshare at the Garden Lago resort. They say they were told that if they remortgaged their home in Ebbw Vale, Gwent, through the Mortgage Advice Centre, their mortgage would be reduced and they would have a week's

timeshare effectively free. Back at home in Wales, the Seifes found that they would actually be paying £12,000 for the timeshare. They cancelled the mortgage agreement but were told that they could not cancel the timeshare. They have so far failed to recover the 1987 deposit.

if they are not happy with the arrangement when they return home they can cancel.

Many people have tried to do so when they discover the mortgage rates are much higher than first quoted. It is then they realise they can cancel only the remortgaging agreement, not the timeshare contract. The centre is being investigated by the Office of Fair Trading after complaints from more than 40 people about Atlas Balear to the helpline.

In Britain, the Timeshare Act gives a 14-day cooling-off period during which time consumers who have agreed to buy a timeshare can change

their minds. But this does not cover contracts signed abroad except in Portugal, Madeira and France.

From April 1997, European Union rules will require resorts to provide a disclosure document on request to all buyers. This will give them the right to a cooling-off period of ten working days in which to cancel the contract, a period which can be extended for up to three months if the timeshare resort fails to provide the required information.

However, Ms Leighton gives warning that even the ten-day cooling-off period may not protect consumers sufficiently. "Ten days is not very

long, when you are on holiday for two weeks, to discover what people are up to. No matter how good the deal may seem, always seek professional advice," she says.

The Helpline has issued a list of companies that have come in for particular criticism by consumers. They include Atlas Balear, United Paradise which operates at resorts in Tenerife, Rockwell International which operates on the Costa del Sol, and companies operated by Island Financial Services of Brentwood, Essex, which operates in Tenerife.

A spokeswoman for the Timeshare Council, which

represents timeshare companies and owners, agreed that these companies were responsible for most complaints.

"We are engaged in the talks with the major players to try to stop disreputable practices. The vast majority of timeshares are sold with no problems," she said. More than three million households own timeshares at more than 4,000 resorts worldwide.

● The Timeshare Council is a trade association which gives advice and can alert consumers to problem firms (017-821 8845). The Timeshare Helpline (0181-536 0002) may be able to help consumers to get their money back.

Send in the Marines' civvy replacements

**The Royal
Marines' site
at Deal
is for sale**

The Royal Naval College at Greenwich it is not, but the Royal Marines School of Music at Deal is still of considerable architectural and historic interest.

It was here that in 1989 an IRA bomb killed 11 bandmen. For two centuries military music was taught to members of the Armed Forces at the school. There are three listed buildings among the 69 on the site, including the very fine naval hospital on the East Barracks, and the officers' mess on the South Barracks.

Now the site is up for sale for an undisclosed price through the agent Hillier Parker. The school was closed this March despite an emotional campaign to prevent it moving lock, stock and big bass drum to new quarters at HMS Nelson, Portsmouth. The decision caused an outcry from people in the Kent town, which has had a Royal Marines presence for 200 years.

The sale is unlikely to provoke criticism along the lines of that which greeted the sale of the Royal Naval College, the future of which has now been secured by the setting-up of an architectural trust. The conservationist group Save Britain's Heritage is pleased the site is being sold in that there is hope that a new use will be secured for the buildings.

Emma Phillips, from Save Britain's Heritage, said: "This is a very sensitive site with a number of listed buildings and rare open spaces. The reuse of these rare Georgian buildings will allow the public to appreciate and view them. The

buildings are in a good state and the site can provide good views, as at Eastney and Winchester."

Consumers can expect that at least some of the site is likely to be redeveloped for residential use. Other former military and naval sites have been successfully redeveloped.

Take Try Homes' redevelopment of Peninsula Barracks in Winchester, for example. More than 60 flats have already been sold at the redevelopment through Hampsons, the agent which has recently merged with Cluttons London Residential.

Such sites combine central locations and historic buildings. The School of Music sits on 45 acres in the centre of Deal. Nicola Maxted, from Hillier Parker, emphasises that it is unlikely that the whole site would be redeveloped for residential use, but that a variety of users, some institutional, some educational, some leisure, have already expressed interest. She is confident of a successful sale which will profit the taxpayer.

David Shaw, the Tory MP for Dover, however, cautions that developers may not be tempted by the three separate sites and barracks complexes, given the cost of redeveloping

the 69 buildings. There is also insufficient road access. Miss Maxted claims that planners have addressed the road access problem.

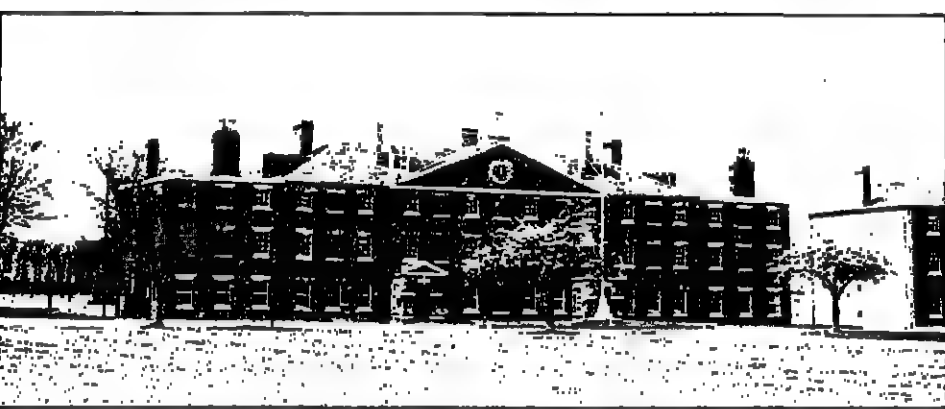
Mr Shaw says that parts of the site are unlikely to be sold for a profit. Last year Cluttons, the agent, valued the three sites at minus £5 million. It would cost £5 million more to maintain the buildings than a developer could make by building houses, the survey found. A spokesman for the MoD rejected the figures.

Mr Shaw said: "Some of the buildings would be unsuitable for conversion into offices, because you couldn't get the computer networking installed. It was obviously a great tragedy that the school closed. Now the people of Deal want a use for the buildings which ideally would create jobs. What is particularly upsetting is the uncertainty surrounding these buildings. There is a fear they could stay empty for a while."

Local people are keen to see a new resource provided for the town. Audrey Elliott, the former Mayor of Deal, said people accepted the need to sell the site. She would like to see the South Barracks turned into a sports complex.

The buildings date in part from the late 18th century when a cavalry barracks was established in Deal, with subsequent extensions. The Marines took over the old Navy barracks and hospital in 1860. Later, Deal became one of the main bases of the Marines.

RACHEL KELLY



The classic facade of the South Barracks, home to the officers' mess before the closure

Court of Appeal

Balancing interests of children

In re P (Minors) (Contact)
Before Lord Justice Hirst and Mr Justice Wall
[Judgment May 9]

A judge had not been entitled, in the exercise of his discretion, to make an order refusing direct contact between a father and his children because of the mother's hostility, even though his decision involved no error of principle and was based on the likely effect on the children of any deterioration in their mother's health due to stress and anxiety, as insufficient weight had been given to the importance to the children of maintaining face to face contact with their father and the evidence did not justify a finding that the mother's attitude would put the children at serious risk of major emotional harm if she were to be compelled to accept a degree of contact with the father against her will.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal from a decision of Mr Recorder Spon-Smith, on October 18, 1995, at Bromley County Court, directing that the father should have only indirect contact with his children; having previously ruled, on August 4, 1994, that the father should have direct contact, under supervision, for one hour each month.

Mr Michael Phillips for the father; Miss Ayesha Hasan for the mother; Mr Harry Turcan for the guardian ad litem.

MR JUSTICE WALL said that counsel for the father, rightly in his view, submitted that the recorder was not guilty of any error of principle. He said that his error was in the balancing exercise and that the critical weight he gave to the risk to the mother's health vitiated the exercise of his discretion and rendered his decision plainly wrong.

Counsel for the mother relied, inter alia, on the recorder's finding that the parties would find it impossible to stop denigrating each other and on the consequences to the children in having contact with their father in the context of the mother's hostility. She also relied on the well known speech of Lord Fraser of Tullybelton in *G v G* [1985] 1 WLR 647. In that she was supported by counsel for the guardian ad litem.

Lord Fraser in *G v G* had cited with approval the judgment of Sir John Arnold, President, in the Court of Appeal in the same case [1985] 1 WLR 657, and the judgment of Lord Justice Cunniffe in *Bruce v Clarke-Hunt v Newcombe* [1984] 4 FLR 482, 486 who had said:

"There was not really a right solution; there were two alternative wrong solutions. The problem for the judge was to appreciate the factors pointing in each direction and to decide which of the two bad solutions was the least dangerous having regard to the long-term interests of the children, and so he decided the matter."

"Whether I would have decided it in the same way if I had been in the position of the trial judge I do not know. I might have taken the same course as the judge and I might not, but I was never in that position. I am sitting in the Court of Appeal deciding a quite different question: has it been shown that the judge to whom Parliament has confided the exercise of discretion, plainly got the wrong answer? I emphasise the word 'plainly'."

Counsel for the mother relied strongly on that passage. The recorder, she submitted, could have gone either way. He went one way. The court could not say he was plainly wrong to do so.

In his Lordship's judgment, that argument, powerful as it was, left out of account the duty of the Court of Appeal carefully to examine the recorder's conduct and to interfere if it took the view that an error in the balancing exercise was of sufficient gravity to vitiate the exercise of his discretion.

That duty was expressed by Lord Fraser in *G v G* by reference to quotations from the decision of the Court of Appeal in *In re F (a Minor) (Wardship: Appeal)* [1976] Fam 238 and, in particular, from the judgment of Lord Justice Bridge who had said (at p260):

"The judge was exercising a discretion. He saw and heard the witnesses. It is impossible to say that he considered any irrelevant matter, erred in law or applied any wrong principle. On the view I take, his error was in the balancing exercise."

"He either gave too little weight to the factors favourable, or too much weight to the factors adverse to the father's claim that he should retain care and control of the child."

"If in any discretion case concerning children the appellate court can clearly detect that a conclusion, which is itself dependent on or justified by the trial judge's advantage in seeing and hearing witnesses, is vitiated by an error in the balancing exercise, I should be very reluctant to hold that it is powerless to interfere."

Neither Miss Hasan nor Mr Turcan suggested here that the exercise of the recorder's discretion depended on his seeing and hearing the witnesses. Each submitted, however, and it was a submission which had force, that the recorder had the particular advantage of judicial continuity: he had tried the case at all its relevant stages. That was an important point of which his Lordship did not lose sight.

He accepted, moreover, Mr Turcan's argument that the reconciliation of the two passages from Lord Fraser's speech in *G v G*, which he had quoted was to be found in the passage from the judgment of Sir John Arnold (at p 650): "... what this court should seek to do is to answer the question whether the court discerns a wrongness in the result of so striking a character as to make it a

legitimate conclusion that there must have been an error of method — apart, of course, from a disclosed inclusion of irrelevant or exclusion of relevant matters."

In order to answer fully Sir John Arnold's question it was necessary not only to examine the factors which appeared in the instant case, but to remind oneself of the underlying principles which applied in such cases.

Although not cited in the recorder there was no doubt that the definitive exposition of those principles was to be found in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *In re O (Contact: Imposition of conditions)* (The Times March 17, 1995; [1995] 2 FLR 134, 128C-130D).

His Lordship summarised the principles set out therein as follows:

1 Overriding all else, as provided by section 1(1) of the Children Act 1989, the welfare of the child was the paramount consideration, and the court was concerned with the interests of the mother and the father only in so far as they bore on the welfare of the child.

2 It was almost always in the interests of a child whose parents were separated that he or she should have contact with the parent with whom the child was not living.

3 The court had power to enforce orders for contact, which it should not hesitate to exercise where it judged that that would overall promote the welfare of the child to do so.

4 Cases did, unhappily and infrequently, but occasionally, arise in which a court was compelled to conclude that in existing circumstances an order for immediate direct contact should not be ordered, because so to order would injure the welfare of the child: see *In re D (a Minor) (Contact: Mother's hostility)* [1993] 2 FLR 1, 71 per Lord Justice Waite.

5 In cases in which, for whatever reasons, direct contact could not for the time being be ordered, it was ordinarily highly desirable that there should be indirect contact so that the child grew up knowing of the love and interest of the absent parent with whom, in due course, direct contact should be established.

The phrase used by Sir Thomas Bingham in the formulation of the second principle was "almost always". In supporting it he cited the judgment of Lord Justice Balcombe in *In re J (a Minor) (Contact)* [1994] 2 FLR 729, 736B-C:

"But before concluding this judgment, I would like to make three general points. The first is that judges should be very reluctant to allow the implacable hostility of one parent (usually the mother) who has a residence order in his or her favour to deter them from making a contact order where they believe the child's welfare requires it. The danger of

allowing the implacable hostility of the residential parent (usually the mother) to frustrate the court's decision is too obvious to require repetition on my part."

Within the fourth principle set out by Sir Thomas Bingham, his citation from the judgment of Lord Justice Waite in *In re D* (at p7C) was also particularly apposite:

"It is now well settled that the implacable hostility of a mother towards access or contact is a factor which is capable, according to the circumstances of each particular case, of supplying a cogent reason for departing from the general principle that a child should grow up in the knowledge of both his parents."

"I see no reason to think that the judge fell into any error of principle in deciding as he clearly did on the plain interpretation of his judgment, that the mother's present attitude towards contact put D at serious risk of major emotional harm if she were to be compelled to accept a degree of contact to the natural father against her will."

Sir Thomas had drawn attention to Lord Justice Waite's reference to a serious risk of emotional harm. He went on to say:

"The courts should not at all readily accept that the child's welfare will be injured by direct contact. Judging that question, the court should take a medium-term and long-term view of the child's development and not accord excessive weight to what appears likely to be short-term or transient problems. Neither parent should be encouraged or permitted to think that the more intransigent, the more unreasonable, the more obdurate and the more uncooperative they are, the more likely they are to get their own way."

His Lordship said that it followed from his analysis of *G v G* that in his judgment there was an error by the recorder in the balancing exercise sufficient to vitiate the exercise of his discretion and to render his decision not to order direct contact plainly wrong. He did not suggest that the recorder erred in principle. In particular he plainly looked to the effect on the children of any deterioration in their mother's health due to stress and anxiety.

But, in addition to other factors, he did not give sufficient weight to the importance for the children of maintaining face to face contact with their father in the context of the case, and the evidence did not justify a finding that, in the words of Lord Justice Waite in *In re D* (at p7C) the mother's present attitude towards contact would put the children at serious risk of major emotional harm if she were to be compelled to accept a degree of contact to the natural father against her will.

Lord Justice Hirst agreed.

Solicitors: Judge & Priestly, Bromley; Dennis Matthews, Penge; Solicitor.

Law Report May 15 1996

Passenger not user of vehicle

Hutton v Hall and Another
Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Henry and Lord Justice Saville
[Judgment May 2]

A passenger who was being carried as part of a plan agreed with the owner of a motor vehicle was not necessarily a "user" of the vehicle for the purposes of clause of the Motor Insurers' Bureau (Compensation of Victims of Uninsured Drivers) Agreement (1972) and thus unable to claim compensation from the bureau in the event of his sustaining personal injuries when the driver was uninsured.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the second defendant, the Motor Insurers' Bureau (MIB), from a decision of Mr Justice Waller that the plaintiff, David Anthony Hutton, who had been a pillion passenger on a motor cycle driven by the first defendant, Mark Hall, on a 10-mile journey to a public house had not been a user of the motor cycle for the purposes of clause 6(ii)(f).

Clause 6 of the MIB Agreement provides:

"(i) MIB shall not incur any liability... in a case where... (c) at the time of the accident the person suffering... bodily injury in respect of which the claim is made was allowing himself to be carried in a vehicle and... (ii) being... a person using the

vehicle, he was using or causing or permitting the vehicle to be used without there being in force in relation to such use a contract of insurance as would comply with Part VI of the Road Traffic Act 1972, knowing or having reason to believe that no such contract was in force."

Mr John Crowley, QC and Mr Steven Snowden for the MIB; Mr Peter Heppell, QC, for the plaintiff; the first defendant was not represented and did not appear.

LORD JUSTICE HENRY, giving the judgment of the court, said that it seemed clear from the wording of the clause that "user" in the exemption was intended to bear the same meaning as in Part VI of the current consolidated statute, now the Road Traffic Act 1988.

The obligations on the user in relation to insurance cover were found in section 143 which apart from a specific defence available to employee users under subsection (3) created an absolute offence. It was no defence that the user believed there to be an appropriate policy in force.

It was apparent that, while every passenger, in ordinary language "used" the vehicle he was driven in, "user" had to be given a restricted meaning for it was not very many passengers in cars, cabs and buses had unwittingly but potentially been committing

criminal offences in accepting lifts in ignorance of the precise insurance position of the vehicle.

It was also to be noted that the passenger claiming against the MIB was not defeated simply by the finding that he knew that there was no sufficient third party cover in force but only if additionally he was liable as an owner or user for failure to provide that cover.

Mr Crowley submitted that the judge's finding was wrong in law in the light of the terms of the Court of Appeal's decision in *Stinton v Stinton* [1995] RTR 157. He submitted that the authorities subsequent to *Brown v Roberts* [1968] 1 QB 1 introduced the concept of "joint enterprise" into the test.

He went further and submitted that as the plaintiff was on the facts found being carried as part of a plan agreed with the owner, in the instant case to go to a pub for a drink on a motor cycle, so the court was bound by the decision in *Stinton* to find that the plaintiff was a "user".

If that were the correct analysis of that decision it would greatly widen the category of "user" as previously understood. In fact it would make the great majority of passengers users as it had to be considerably more common than not for the passenger to share an agreed common purpose with the driver.

It would be completely at vari-

ance with the restricted construction of "user" laid down by Mr Justice Megaw in *Brown v Roberts*, a decision which the Court of Appeal in *Stinton*, of which Sir John Megaw was a member, in no way criticised. The court would not expect that careful judge to allow himself to be reversed by implication: if limiting or qualifying or reversing his earlier view, the court would expect him to do so in terms.

Analysis of Mr Justice Waller's ratio below showed that he too was applying Mr Justice Megaw's test in relation to whether there was a sufficient degree of control or management of the vehicle to make the plaintiff a user of the vehicle. He concluded there was not.

Implicit in that conclusion was his finding that the "joint enterprise" did not involve a sufficient vesting of control or management of the motor-cycle in the pillion passenger to make him a user of the vehicle on that trip.

He considered and distinguished *Stinton*. Fundamental to that distinction was his assumption that not all plans shared between driver and passenger gave the passenger sufficient management of the vehicle to make him a user of the vehicle. That conclusion seemed to be good sense as well as good law.

Solicitors: L. Bingham & Co; Stamp Jackson & Procter, Hull.

Avoiding inconsistent decisions

Iberian (UK) Ltd v BPB Industries plc and Another
Before Mr Justice Laddie
[Judgment April 18]

The courts should not interpret rules of procedure in a way that risked that they and institutions of the European Union would arrive at inconsistent results on EU competition issues. It would thus be contrary to public policy to allow persons who had been involved in competition proceedings in the European courts to deny, in United Kingdom proceedings, the correctness of conclusions reached there.

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division, in ruling on two preliminary issues, ordered, in December 1990, by Mr Justice Morritt, between the plaintiffs, Iberian UK Ltd, and the defendants, BPB Industries plc, a holding company with wide interests in the gypsum industry, and a subsidiary, British Gypsum Ltd.

Mr David Anderson for the plaintiffs; Mr Nicholas Paines for the defendants.

MR JUSTICE LADDIE said that between 1984 and 1987 the plaintiffs had imported Spanish plasterboard into the United Kingdom and in June 1986 had complained to the European Commission that the defendants, who at that time accounted for

more than 90 per cent of sales in the UK, had adopted retaliatory steps to protect their dominant position.

There had ensued: (i) in December 1988, a decision by the Commission No 89/22/EEC, binding on the defendants, subject to any order for annulment, upholding the complaint and imposing fines; (ii) an unsuccessful application to the Court of First Instance for annulment (Case T-65/89; [1993] 5 CMLR 32); and (iii) an unsuccessful appeal to the European Court of Justice (Case C-310/93; [1995] ECR I-865). Meanwhile the plaintiffs had issued their writ in September 1988.

Mr Paines accepted that the court was bound by conclusions of pure law in judgments of the CFI and ECJ, see section 3 of the European Communities Act 1972, but argued that issues of fact, or of mixed fact and law, were to be investigated and decided according to the procedures of the High Court.

The questions whether the defendants were liable to compensate the plaintiffs, and if so how much, had not been in issue in the European proceedings, so there could be no cause of action estoppel; but he contended that the plaintiffs' case fell squarely within the criteria for issue estoppel set out in *Millis v Cooper* [1969] 2 QB 459.

His Lordship referred to *Arnold v National Westminster Bank plc* [1991] 2 AC 63, *Hunter v Chief Constable of West Midlands Police* [1992] AC 529, *Hasselblad (GB) Ltd v Orbinson* [1985] QB 475, (Case 53/85) *AKZO Chemie BV v Commission of the European Communities* [1986] ECR 1965 and concluded that that argument of the plaintiffs failed.

But in his Lordship's view issue estoppel was but a part of the doctrine of res judicata. Approaching the matter as one of principle, should the plaintiffs and the defendants be allowed to re-open, in these proceedings, final conclusions of fact or law reached in competition proceedings in Brussels and Luxembourg?

If they could, then any party to English proceedings, wishing to claim damages for a breach of statutory duty on the back of articles 85 and 86 of the EU Treaty would know he faced a decade of litigation; and assuming that claim was sound, that prospect would persuade any plaintiffs, bar the rich or reckless, to abandon it.

His Lordship cited the European Court's decisions in (Case C-24/89) *Stergo Delimitis v Henniger Bräu* [1991] ECR I-935, (Case 314/89) *Foto-Frost v Hauptzollamt Lübeck-Ost* [1991] ECR II-999, and the opinion of Advocate-General Van Gerven in (Case C-128/92) *H. J. Banks & Co*

Ltd v British Coal Corporation [1994] ECR I-209, to the effect that the only course open to a dissatisfied addressee of a decision of the Commission, if he wished to challenge its findings of fact or law, was to bring an action for annulment under article 173 of the Treaty.

His Lordship then referred to *British Leyland Motor Car Ltd v Wyatt Interpart Co Ltd* [1979] 3 CMLR 79, to the dictum of Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the force of particular evidence with the possibility of inconsistent results" and to passages in the judgment of Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, in *Hasselblad* (at p504E) that "it cannot be right that national courts and Community institutions shall both independently weigh the

Season's greeting illuminates return of Masters champion

Faldo home to savour his days in the sun

By JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK FALDO stepped back into the limelight yesterday for the first time since the heady days that followed his tumultuous victory at Augusta last month. As the 1996 Masters champion began preparing for his first "home" tournament this year, it appeared that the weather and the organisers had been in cahoots to make things go his way.

A desolate winter and a rotten spring seem, finally, to have been replaced by the first signs of summer, and the Oxfordshire countryside must have made Faldo, who was born not many miles to the east, feel very much at home.

The vivid green hedgerows were dotted with stunning blackthorn blossom, cow parsley was rife in the verges and here and there a field of yellow rape seed added daubs of colour to the landscape. Though the wind had a sharp cutting edge, the sun was shining. As if that was not enough, the Oxfordshire, near Thame, the course where the Benson and Hedges International Open begins tomorrow, is similar to Chart Hills, the course that Faldo designed in the heart of the Kentish Weald a couple of years ago.

These are truly the days of wine and roses for Faldo, who won his third Masters and his sixth major title on that remarkable day in April. Nine million people on these shores watched those events unfold on television and the audience in the United States was the biggest for a Masters finish in ten years. "I think I've met the nine million in the three weeks I've been back," Faldo said. "Everybody's been wonderful."

They've been hanging out of windows shouting at me. This interest in Faldo has manifested itself in other ways, too, all of which are increasing Faldo's income as fast as others golfers' scores rise on a windy day.

Mizuno, one of Faldo's sponsors, has had to deal with a surge in demand for its golf glove, just as sales of the T-Zoid driver, made by the same firm, have rocketed as golfers seek the extra length that has become such a striking part of Faldo's game. Likewise, the new surlyn ball that Faldo first used in South Africa at the end of last year, before winning with it in Augusta, is in increasing demand.

A further indication of how much of what Faldo touches seems to turn to gold came yesterday afternoon when a letter in Faldo's name was delivered to *The Times*. It contained an invitation to visit an exhibition stand organised by Pringle, the clothing manufacturer associated with Faldo, and choose a sports shirt or a sweater. "I am extremely proud of my association with Pringle," Faldo wrote. "and I am delighted to announce that, to date, they have sold almost four million Faldo items around the world since the Faldo range of clothing was announced in 1987."

Faldo has also seen his name dragged through the mud lately and, while he is cut to the point of brevity on the subject of whether Brenna Copelak, his companion, is with him (she is), he is not exactly garrulous about the praise that has come his way. He was pleased, though, to note that Lee Janzen, Colin



What's my line? Faldo displays his familiar brand of intensity during a practice round at The Oxfordshire course yesterday. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Montgomery and Curtis Strange had all commented favourably about his 67 in the fourth round at Augusta, which he began six strokes behind Greg Norman and finished five ahead. "It was a helluva round and that is coming through," Faldo said. "I know how I played. Mental-

ly, I was very strong, and I hit it in the right places." Then he started to quote Ben Hogan, one of his heroes. "Hogan was asked if golf is physical or mental, and he said it was 100 per cent physical and 100 per cent mental," Faldo said. "This was a good example of that. I was

obviously thinking well and hitting it where I wanted to hit it. That is what I am pleased about — the way I played under pressure. It's a mental and physical thing. You want to hit the ball there, but if you physically can't do it, it all goes wrong. Luckily, I've had that quality."

Shining light striking a nation colour-blind

I have a scoop on my hands here. Football has been fainting in coils of delight since Chelsea appointed — and the man himself accepted — a new manager, the person in question being, of course, Ruud Gullit: great man, inspirational player, genuine thinker about the game, a person so articulate that the usual patronising praise of a sportsman for possessing this quality is beside the point.

Yet I know something about Gullit that nobody else has noticed. Gullit is, ah, black — and foreign, and possessing a please-notice-me haircut, a subject on which I am rather expert myself but really, you know, if you look, you will see that he is quite definitely black.

Why did nobody notice? For it is undeniably interesting and cheering that the first black manager of a Premiership club has been appointed, but nobody cares, nobody gives such a thing a thought. The headline is not that Chelsea have a black player-manager — they have Ruud Gullit.

So does that make him an honorary white? An Uncle Tom, a black man playing the white man's game for what he can get? Of course not. If that were the case, Gullit would have a sensible haircut. The haircut trumpets out the message of his independence, his determined freedom of spirit. The haircut, for that matter, emphasises the quality of blackness, but still nobody has noticed.

Besides, Gullit is rich enough to give the finger to anyone in the world, more or less, and even if that were not the case, he has got where he is — in football, in the world's estimation — by playing his own game, not other people's.

No, Gullit's blackness has not been generously overlooked; it has actually been forgotten altogether. It has been forgotten by the turbulent Ken Bates, the chairman of Chelsea. It has been forgotten by the supporters of Chelsea Football Club, which

MIDWEEK VIEW



SIMON BARNES

was never regarded before as a haven of racial tolerance. In fact, Stamford Bridge, the Chelsea ground, was for years regarded as one of the nastier places to go if you were a black member of a visiting team. Football crowds are traditionally prepared to make exceptions to the rules of racism. These days, a black player in the

'The haircut trumpets his freedom of spirit'

home team readily becomes a love object, at least as long as he delivers the goods.

Yet the Chelsea crowd's love of Gullit went beyond the fact that he delivered goods and goals. They responded to him as a genuinely exceptional person, and the clamour for him to take over, as soon as Glenn Hoddle, the incumbent, was called to what might loosely be called higher things, was deafening. The clamour was echoed



Gullit: race forgotten

by the players, who were calling Gullit "Gaffer" as soon as they heard that Hoddle was to leave them. The securing of Gullit to do the job was greeted with gasps, not of dismay at the audacity of the appointment, but of sheer relief.

Not just Chelsea, all of football, Gullit was a good thing: a team managed by him would be an asset to the game. Never mind that he has never managed a team before and he might be hopeless. English football basks in a sense of privilege, because Gullit is managing an English team.

There is scarcely a player in the world, of any colour or nationality or haircut, who would be welcomed in such a way. It is splendid stuff, but it is not splendid because racism is dead. It just means that Gullit is a rather splendid fellow.

Gullit has an air of genuine self-certainty, an air, almost, of wisdom. Whether this can be translated into FA Carling Premiership results is quite another matter. Many believe that it will, but, again, this is not the point. It is not a question of the results that Gullit might get. It was more that he simply had to be given the job. His nature, his stature, demanded it.

Great men and women spring up all over the place. Sport, by its nature, cannot help but give the victims of economics and prejudice more opportunity to succeed than most other worlds.

In celebrating the appointment of Gullit, though, we are not actually dancing on the grave of racism, we are merely praising a famous man, a man who, in less than a year, has dazzled a nation and made it colour-blind.

Stephen Dedalus said: "When the soul of a man is born... there are nets flung at it to hold it back from flight. You talk to me of nationality, language, religion. I shall try to fly by those nets." Add race to that list. Gullit, quite exceptionally, has wings.

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
0171 481 1986 (TRADE)
0171 481 4000 (PRIVATE)

PROPERTY

FAX:
0171 782 7828 (TRADE)
0171 782 7799 (PRIVATE)

COUNTRY RENTALS

TO LET
NK ROSS-ON-WYE
HEREFORDSHIRE
Charming 3 bed stone house
Oil fired C/O, 2 beds, garden
To let up to 5 yrs on F.R.I.
Terms - £20000
Agent: The House Office,
The Village Works,
Hereford, 0191 570727

NORTH COTSWOLDS
Black level well lived in family
period cottage in quiet village. 2
beds, 1 bath, 1 garage, 2.5 acres
100 ft. garden, 200 ft. garden.
Set in quiet orchard with superb
stone house, open fire, fireplace,
etc.
£1,300 pcm.
1 year lease. Avail 015 780354

SHIRE Farmhouse, Cotswolds
in 2 acres, 3 beds, 4 beds, 2
baths, start here. Close to
school, bus, etc. 100 ft. garden.
Call: Mr. Smith, 0128 725057

HAMPSHIRE Waterfront luxury
apartment, furnished, 2 beds,
room, period property, stone
range, central heating, etc.
Call: Mr. Smith, 0128 725057

PROPERTY WANTED

PROPERTY WANTED
Required for UK & Overseas
Investors 0181 887 6000

RELOCATION

MICHAEL CHANDLER PRICE
Finds homes in real time. House
/Apt/Flat/NEW 01728 811102

OVERSEAS PROPERTY

BUYING abroad? Buy with confidence. Contact The Federation of Overseas Property Developers, Agents & Consultants. For your free list of members phone 0181 341 8888 Fax 943 0202

NEW HOMES

4 bedroom houses
from £147,500
Bracknell, Berkshire

A QUALITY LIFESTYLE

Luxury traditional style 4 bed,
2 bath family homes in a quiet,
secluded historic setting within
a mile of Bracknell town centre.
Full value part exchange
available.
01344 482322
(24 hours)
Manor Grange
Bracknell
Berkshire
Sales centre open 10am-5pm
Thursday to Monday

BALEARICS

BALEARICS Acquired small estate
from 1980. 2-4, furnished.
Call: 0128 725057

CANARY ISLANDS

TELEPHONE Auto of villa 0208
02008. A vast selection in
estate locations. Call: 0128
725057. Fax: 0128 725057

CARIBBEAN

BARBADOS
Luxury apartment in prime
location, 2 beds, 1 bath, 1
garage. Call: 0128 725057

FRANCE

FRANCE 19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35/36/37/38/39/40/41/42/43/44/45/46/47/48/49/50/51/52/53/54/55/56/57/58/59/60/61/62/63/64/65/66/67/68/69/70/71/72/73/74/75/76/77/78/79/80/81/82/83/84/85/86/87/88/89/90/91/92/93/94/95/96/97/98/99/100/101/102/103/104/105/106/107/108/109/110/111/112/113/114/115/116/117/118/119/120/121/122/123/124/125/126/127/128/129/130/131/132/133/134/135/136/137/138/139/140/141/142/143/144/145/146/147/148/149/150/151/152/153/154/155/156/157/158/159/160/161/162/163/164/165/166/167/168/169/170/171/172/173/174/175/176/177/178/179/180/181/182/183/184/185/186/187/188/189/190/191/192/193/194/195/196/197/198/199/200/201/202/203/204/205/206/207/208/209/210/211/212/213/214/215/216/217/218/219/220/221/222/223/224/225/226/227/228/229/230/231/232/233/234/235/236/237/238/239/240/241/242/243/244/245/246/247/248/249/250/251/252/253/254/255/256/257/258/259/260/261/262/263/264/265/266/267/268/269/270/271/272/273/274/275/276/277/278/279/280/281/282/283/284/285/286/287/288/289/290/291/292/293/294/295/296/297/298/299/300/301/302/303/304/305/306/307/308/309/310/311/312/313/314/315/316/317/318/319/320/321/322/323/324/325/326/327/328/329/330/331/332/333/334/335/336/337/338/339/340/341/342/343/344/345/346/347/348/349/350/351/352/353/354/355/356/357/358/359/360/361/362/363/364/365/366/367/368/369/370/371/372/373/374/375/376/377/378/379/380/381/382/383/384/385/386/387/388/389/390/391/392/393/394/395/396/397/398/399/400/401/402/403/404/405/406/407/408/409/410/411/412/413/414/415/416/417/418/419/420/421/422/423/424/425/426/427/428/429/430/431/432/433/434/435/436/437/438/439/440/441/442/443/444/445/446/447/448/449/450/451/452/453/454/455/456/457/458/459/460/461/462/463/464/465/466/467/468/469/470/471/472/473/474/475/476/477/478/479/480/481/482/483/484/485/486/487/488/489/490/491/492/493/494/495/496/497/498/499/500/501/502/503/504/505/506/507/508/509/510/511/512/513/514/515/516/517/518/519/520/521/522/523/524/525/526/527/528/529/530/531/532/533/534/535/536/537/538/539/540/541/542/543/544/545/546/547/548/549/550/551/552/553/554/555/556/557/558/559/560/561/562/563/564/565/566/567/568/569/570/571/572/573/574/575/576/577/578/579/580/581/582/583/584/585/586/587/588/589/590/591/592/593/594/595/596/597/598/599/600/601/602/603/604/605/606/607/608/609/610/611/612/613/614/615/616/617/618/619/620/621/622/623/624/625/626/627/628/629/630/631/632/633/634/635/636/637/638/639/640/641/642/643/644/645/646/647/648/649/650/651/652/653/654/655/656/657/658/659/660/661/662/663/664/665/666/667/668/669/670/671/672/673/674/675/676/677/678/679/680/681/682/683/684/685/686/687/688/689/690/691/692/693/694/695/696/697/698/699/700/701/702/703/704/705/706/707/708/709/710/711/712/713/714/715/716/717/718/719/720/721/722/723/724/725/726/727/728/729/730/731/732/733/734/735/736/737/738/739/740/741/742/743/744/745/746/747/748/749/750/751/752/753/754/755/756/757/758/759/760/761/762/763/764/765/766/767/768/769/770/771/772/773/774/775/776/777/778/779/780/781/782/783/784/785/786/787/788/789/790/791/792/793/794/795/796/797/798/799/800/801/802/803/804/805/806/807/808/809/810/811/812/813/814/815/816/817/818/819/820/821/822/823/824/825/826/827/828/829/830/831/832/833/834/835/836/837/838/839/840/841/842/843/844/845/846/847/848/849/850/851/852/853/854/855/856/857/858/859/860/861/862/863/864/865/866/867/868/869/870/871/872/873/874/875/876/877/878/879/880/881/882/883/884/885/886/887/888/889/890/891/892/893/894/895/896/897/898/899/900/901/902/903/904/905/906/907/908/909/910/911/912/913/914/915/916/917/918/919/920/921/922/923/924/925/926/927/928/929/930/931/932/933/934/935/936/937/938/939/940/941/942/943/944/945/946/947/948/949/950/951/952/953/954/955/956/957/958/959/960/961/962/963/964/965/966/967/968/969/970/971/972/973/974/975/976/977/978/979/980/981/982/983/984/985/986/987/988/989/990/991/992/993/994/995/996/997/998/999/1000/1001/1002/1003/1004/1005/1006/1007/1008/1009/1010/1011/1012/1013/1014/1015/1016/1017/1018/1019/1020/1021/1022/1023/1024/1025/1026/1027/1028/1029/1030/1031/1032/1033/1034/1035/1036/1037/1038/1039/1040/1041/1042/1043/1044/1045/1046/1047/1048/1049/1050/1051/1052/1053/1054/1055/1056/1057/1058/1059/1060/1061/1062/1063/1064/1065/1066/1067/1068/1069/1070/1071/1072/1073/1074/1075/1076/1077/1078/1079/1080/1081/1082/1083/1084/1085/1086/1087/1088/1089/1090/1091/1092/1093/1094/1095/1096/1097/1098/1099/1100/1101/1102/1103/1104/1105/1106/1107/1108/1109/1110/1111/1112/1113/1114/1115/1116/1117/1118/1119/1120/1121/1122/1123/1124/1125/1126/1127/1128/1129/1130/1131/1132/1133/1134/1135/1136/1137/1138/1139/1140/1141/1142/1143/1144/1145/1146/1147/1148/1149/1150/1151/1152/1153/1154/1155/1156/1157/1158/1159/1160/1161/1162/1163/1164/1165/1166/1167/1168/1169/1170/1171/1172/1173/1174/1175/1176/1177/1178/1179/1180/1181/1182/1183/1184/1185/1186/1187/1188/1189/1190/1191/1192/1193/1194/1195/1196/1197/1198/1199/1200/1201/1202/1203/1204/1205/1206/1207/1208/1209/1210/1211/1212/1213/1214/1215/1216/1217/1218/1219/1220/1221/1222/1223/1224/1225/1226/1227/1228/1229/1230/1231/1232/1233/1234/1235/1236/1237/1238/1239/1240/1241/1242/1243/1244/1245/1246/1247/1248/1249/1250/1251/1252/1253/1254/1255/1256/1257/1258/1259/1260/1261/1262/1263/1264/1265/1266/1267/1268/1269/1270/1271/1272/1273/1274/1275/1276/1277/1278/1279/1280/1281/1282/1283/1284/1285/1286/1287/1288/1289/1290/1291/1292/1293/1294/1295/1296/1297/1298/1299/1300/1301/1302/1303/1304/1305/1306/1307/1308/1309/1310/1311/1312/1313/1314/1315/1316/1317/1318/1319/1320/1321/1322/1323/1324/1325/1326/1327/1328/1329/1330/1331/1332/1333/1334/1335/1336/1337/1338/1339/1340/1341/1342/1343/1344/1345/1346/1347/1348/1349/1350/1351/1352/1353/1354/1355/1356/1357/1358/1359/1360/1361/1362/1363/1364/1365/1366/1367/1368/1369/1370/1371/1372/1373/1374/1375/1376/1377/1378/1379/1380/1381/1382/1383/1384/1385/1386/1387/1388/1389/1390/1391/1392/1393/1394/1395/1396/1397/1398/1399/1400/1401/1402/1403/1404/1405/1406/1407/1408/1409/1410/1411/1412/1413/1414/1415/1416/1417/1418/1419/1420/1421/1422/1423/1424/1425/1426/1427/1428/1429/1430/1431/1432/1433/1434/1435/1436/1437/1438/1439/1440/1441/1442/1443/1444/1445/1446/1447/1448/1449/1450/1451/1452/1453/1454/1455/1456/1457/1458/1459/1460/1461/1462/1463/1464/1465/1466/1467/1468/1469/1470/1471/1472/1473/1474/1475/1476/1477/1478/1479/1480/1481/1482/1483/1484/1485/1486/1487/1488/1489/1490/1491/1492/1493/1494/1495/1496/1497/1498/1499/1500/1501/1502/1503/1504/1505/1506/1507/1508/1509/1510/1511/1512/1513/1514/1515/1516/1517/1518/1519/1520/1521/1522/1523/1524/1525/1526/1527/1528/1529/1530/1531/1532/1533/1534/1535/1536/1537/1538/1539/1540/1541/1542/1543/1544/1545/1546/1547/1548/1549/1550/1551/1552/1553/1554/1555/1556/1557/1558/1559/1560/1561/1562/1563/1564/1565/1566/1567/1568/1569/1570/1571/1572/1573/1574/1575/1576/1577/1578/1579/1580/1581/1582/1583/1584/1585/1586/1587/1588/1589/1590/1591/1592/1593/1594/1595/1596/1597/1598/1599/1600/1601/1602/1603/1604/1605/1606/1607/1608/1609/1610/1611/1612/1613/1614/1615/1616/1617/1618/1619/1620/1621/1622/1623/1624/1625/1626/1627/1628/1629/1630/1631/1632/1633/1634/1635/1636/1637/1638/1639/1640/1641/1642/1643/1644/1645/1646/1647

حکمت از من الاحسان

guinea pig? The issues were complicated. A man in Mississippi received the first heart-lung transplant, and woke up to find he could breathe "better than ever in his life." His lips were pink instead of blue. It was very touching.

But some organ recipients have hated the drugs so much that they have refused to take them. Fifteen-year-old Berni Agrelo (evidently a *cause célèbre* in America) decided he would rather die than live in pain. And in a court case evocative of *Whose Life Is It Anyway?*, he was granted permission to die if he wanted to. An extraordinary, articulate boy, with no apparent aspirations to sainthood, his resolve was tremendously impressive. Asked on television whether he wouldn't like another liver transplant, "I believe that would be futile," he explained. "People are worse off than me. I'm grateful for what I was given. I mean, somebody had

WESTCOUNTRY

3.33ern Sharkey and George (r) (5102979)
 4.00 The Big Breakfast (69912)
 5.00 The Golden Girls (r) (Telefeed) (s)
 (49573)
 6.30 Schools: Le Petit Monde de Pierre
 (5655498) 6.45 Book Box (5634304)
 10.00 Stage Two Science (2262006)
 10.15 Equinox Plus (4993018) 11.15
 Sports at Work (4162752) 11.15 The
 Mix (3936892) 11.30 Rattus Tattus
 (7859370) 11.45 The Score (7854825)
 2.00 House to House (36009)
 2.30pm Sesame Street (r) (71963) 1.3
 Madeline (r) (39501221)
 2.55 Channel A Wild (39588912)
 2.55 Channel 4 Racing from York (s)
 (12146793)
 3.30 Fifteen to One (Telefeed) (s) (370) 5.0
 Ricki Lake (Telefeed) (s) (1812776) 5.4
 Terrylocks (742406)
 6.00 Blossoms (r) (Telefeed) (s) (845554)
 6.25 Home Improvement (Telefeed) (s)
 (854473)
 6.55 Mrun Buchsanasangur (424689)
 7.00 Channel 4 News (931370)
 8.55 Get Netted. Media, online editor at Sky
 Two magazine, has turned her obsession
 with fashion into her profession, by
 setting up the world's largest fetish web
 site (Telefeed) (s) (274931)
 9.00 Brookside. (Telefeed) (s) (7738)
 9.30 Scrumpers. Ray Brooks and Rick Bar
 tour Britain meeting people who are
 champions at saving money through
 ingenious means (1/4) (r) (Telefeed)
 (9573)
 10.00 CHOICE Dispatches. A report o
 violence in the classroom
 (488778)

30 Cheers. When Sam stands up to Nick Tortelli, Nick decides to get his own back by putting Diane under his "spell" (Teletext) (s) (307582)

30 Sam Night sports. The through-the-night sports teat. Includes live coverage of Major League baseball as Pittsburgh Pirates visit the Atlanta Braves.

VH-1

CMT EUROPE

Country music from 8am to 7pm on satellite, 24 hours on cable

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagan (86569080) 7.30 Astoria
Morning Zangas(2931) 8.30 Zee Presents
9.00am The Best Of (8153429)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continues cartoons from 5am to 7pm
than TNT times as below.

3.00pm *Fleabag* (1834), (9775) (15)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

PERFORMANCE

7:00pm Joe Williams 8:00 Ana 8:30
Pucini's *Le Fanciulli Del West* from the
Royal Opera 10:00 Puccini's 11:45 Ana
12:00-1:00am Benny Carter

SPORT

WEDNESDAY MAY 15 1996

RUGBY LEAGUE 48

ENGLAND PLACE
FAITH IN GOULDING'S
DAZZLING FORM

Warwickshire's run halted

Lloyd inspires
Lancashire
to late triumph

BY IVO TENNANT

OLD TRAFFORD (Warwickshire won toss): Lancashire (2pts) beat Warwickshire by one wicket

WARWICKSHIRE had won every match that they had contested this season, barring one that was ruined by rain. There was little doubting, until the closing overs yesterday, that they had the beating of Lancashire, too, in a Benson and Hedges Cup match to determine which county would have a home draw in the quarter-finals. Somehow, they managed to lose it.

Lancashire required 313 and, for much of their innings, were behind the run-rate. What they did manage, though, were contributions all the way down the order. Lloyd effectively won the match, batting as he can rarely have batted before against such testing opposition, shepherding the tail, if such useful batsmen can be so described, and achieving victory off the penultimate ball when nine wickets were down.

Watkinson had chosen to open with Atherton and, to an

extent, this came off. They had put on 50 by the seventh over, the disparity in their techniques no disadvantage in this form of the game. The shuffling of the batting order continued when Austin was sent in at No 4, which meant that only 17 overs remained when Fairbrother came to the wicket with all too little time to smell the roses. A tactical error, it seemed at the time.

Glamorgan race through 47
Scoreboards and tables ... 47

Yet everybody played a part. Atherton was out to a one-day shot, an attempted steer of a straight ball to third man, which was what he had to try in the circumstances. Watkinson was held by the straighter of two short mid-wickets that Reeve had astutely placed for him, and him alone. Austin was beaten by Neil Smith's first ball.

After 15 overs, Lancashire had mustered 100 for three, 12 runs behind what Warwickshire had achieved at that

stage. There followed the most elegant batting of the day, Crawley increasingly reminiscent of Ken McEwan in the way that he stands at the crease and finds the gaps with a languid certainty. He added 95 in 18 overs with Galian. When they were together, Lancashire could indeed countenance victory.

Warwickshire's excellence in the field seemed to put paid to that. Reeve likes to position himself closer to the bat than most extra-cover fielders, and it was there that he held a mistimed cover drive by Crawley. Ten runs later, Galian was brilliantly held low down by Brown at deep square leg off the same bowler, Welch. The best catch of all came when Paul Smith plucked one down at mid-wicket to account for Chapple. The bowler? Reeve, of course.

That seemed to be that. Lancashire's strength in limited-overs cricket, however, is their depth in batting. That was the case when they were winning the Gillette Cup in the 1970s. Hegg, Yates and Chapple all contributed and Martin, the last man in, is a good enough batsman to have scored a first-class century. From the last six overs, Lancashire needed 46, then 22 off three and 17 from the last two.

When Chapple was out, Lancashire required 21 from their last pair. Astonishingly, Pollock conceded 14 runs off the penultimate over and Reeve, entrusting himself with the last over, could not prevent Lancashire from taking three runs off it. Lloyd, who scored 63 from 40 balls, including six fours, won the gold award.

Warwickshire began with an opening stand of 97 in 13 overs between Knight and Neil Smith. Ooster and Ferny made useful contributions in the middle of the innings and Pollock and Brown added 82 in the final 11 overs, which, it appeared at the time, was match-winning batting. Pollock's half-century came off 44 balls and included four fours and a six.



Hancock, who was later to exert a vital influence with the ball, is run out by a throw from Stephenson, the Hampshire captain

Hancock's brief spell of magic decisive

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

BRISTOL (Hampshire won toss): Gloucestershire (2pts) beat Hampshire by 21 runs

CRICKET played like this can simultaneously baffle, enthral and depress. A considerable crowd at Neill Road was excited by constant fluctuations and cheered by the victory that secured a Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final for Gloucestershire, but a detached analysis was enough to make one weep for the standards in domestic one-day cricket.

Hampshire will be painfully aware that they could have won this tie — effectively an eliminator — but for some cavalier batting when only pragmatism was required. Gloucestershire, equally, must concede that they had earlier squandered an ideal platform for their innings with some curiously frenetic batting that, against stronger

opposition, would have been ruinous.

After so much that was misguided or misapplied, it was perhaps appropriate that the game turned on the introduction of Tim Hancock for a rare bowl. Hancock, called into action only through an injury sustained in the field by Kevin Cooper, took three wickets for two in his first two overs of seamers as Hampshire, who had required less than a run a ball with six wickets in hand, fell messily on their sword.

No one was more culpable than Winston Benjamin, for no one had been so obviously capable of winning the game. Promoted to No 5, he used a blend of savagery and sophistication to put Hampshire in charge for the first time. He had made 43 from 36 balls and believed the force was with him. Rather than take singles, with the field deep set, he tried to hit Hancock out of the ground and was caught at long-off. Hampshire's momentum

was thus punctured and, as Stephenson and Whitaker fell under Hancock's spell, Gloucestershire never again looked seriously at risk. The book-making firm who offered them at 80-1 for this competition only last week may have winced but nobody there need suffer too many sleepless nights unless Gloucestershire sharpen up aspects of their game before the quarter-finals.

Wright and Dawson played confidently through the first hour after being put in by Hampshire. At 65 without loss, in the fourteenth over, they could think positively of 300.

In consecutive overs, however, the openers were dismissed. Hancock was then run out by a direct hit from Stephenson, at mid-on and Symonds drilled Maru to Morris at extra cover.

Hampshire were now ahead on points, but Cumliffe and Alleyne wrestled back the initiative with a stand of 113 in 15 overs, much the best batting of the game.

Both were out in the final flurry, Cumliffe having validated the many high opinions of him in these parts while Alleyne, whose 75 occupied only 53 balls, reiterated the silky quality of his strokeplay. Gloucestershire now had an imposing total.

Gloucestershire's seamers dropped short too often on a pitch where there was scant margin for error and Hampshire reached 113-4 when the first over of spin shifted the balance once more. Davis first had Morris smoothly stumped, then induced a stiff push to mid-on from Smith.

While James, who showed the benefit of three second-team centuries, and Benjamin were together, Hampshire remained on course. They were blown off it not by remarkable bowling or fielding but by their own flawed instincts.

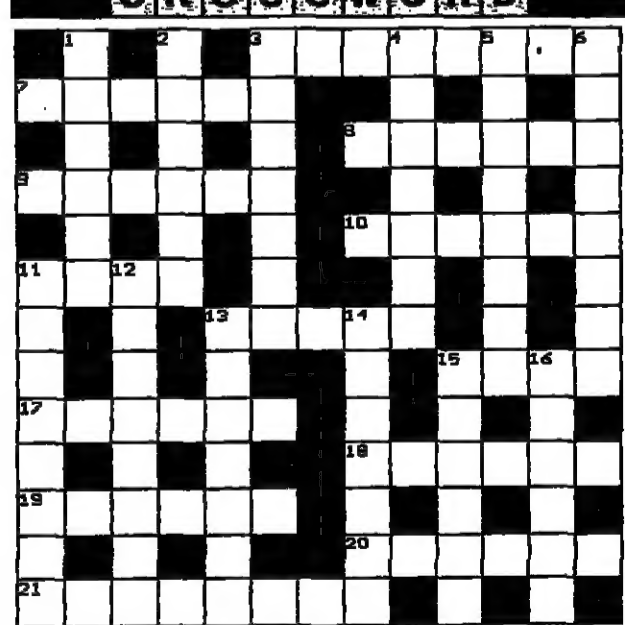
SCOREBOARD FROM BRISTOL

GLoucestershire	Score
A J Wright bow b James	31
R I Dawson c Benjamin b Maru	33
R J Cumliffe b Benjamin	73
H C Hancock run out	10
A Symonds c Morris b Maru	26
C A Smith c James b Whitaker	6
M W Alleyne bow b Cooper	75
R C Russell run out	8
R P Davis c Cooper	2
A M Smith not out	0
Extras (b 3, w 3, nb 2)	8
Total (48.2 overs)	272
Score at 15 overs: 71-2	
K E Cooper did not bat.	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-48, 3-48, 4-128, 5-145, 6-228, 7-270, 8-272, 9-272.	
BOWLING: Benjamin 10-2-56-1; Cooper 6-0-48-2; James 4-0-24-1; Maru 10-0-43-2; Udd 10-0-57-0; Whitaker 10-0-41-1.	

Hampshire	Score
R S M Morris c Russell b Davis	59
J S Lacey c Welch b Cooper	54
K D James run out	36
R A Smith c Alleyne b Davis	1
W K M Benjamin c Smith b Hancock	49
J P Stephenson c Wright b Hancock	7
P R Whitaker c Davis b Hancock	6
R A M James run out	17
S D Lidd c Symonds b Smith	32
C A Connor c Davis b Welch	1
R J Maru not out	0
Extras (b 3, w 6)	9
Total (48.2 overs)	251
Score at 15 overs: 79-1	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-47, 2-113, 3-115, 4-182, 5-186, 6-186, 7-186, 8-231, 9-237.	
BOWLING: Cooper 8-0-48-1; Smith 8-2-40-1; Alleyne 9-0-48-0; Welch 10-0-41-1; Davis 10-0-50-2; Hancock 4-0-13-3.	
Gold award: M W Alleyne.	
Umpires: J H Harris and B Leadbeater.	

OLD TRAFFORD SCOREBOARD

Warwickshire	Score
N V Knight c Fairbrother b Martin	47
M K Smith c Atherton b Yates	41
P A Smith c Galian b Chapple	17
D P Collier c Atherton b Yates	11
L Parnery c and b Martin	34
D A Reeve c Hegg b Yates	27
S M Pollock not out	59
D R Brown not out	23
Extras (b 11, w 4, nb 8)	23
Total (50 overs)	318
Score at 15 overs: 112-2	
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-47, 2-112, 3-122, 4-161, 5-208, 6-230.	
BOWLING: Martin 10-0-57-2; Austin 10-1-62-0; Chapple 10-0-41-1; Yates 10-0-48-3; Watkinson 10-0-54-0.	
Lancashire	Score
M A Atherton bow b Giles	15

TIMES TWO
CROSSWORD

No 782

- ACROSS**
- Relieved of weapons, suspicions (8)
 - Unsettled administrative body (6)
 - Unhealthy pale; a willow (6)
 - Negligent (6)
 - Tastelessly bright (6)
 - Embankment; ditch (4)
 - Play; emotional situation (5)
 - Genuine; old Spanish coin (6)
 - Curly salad plant (6)
 - "Flower" plucked out of the nettle danger (Hen. IV) (6)
 - Without effect; ostentatiously (6)
- DOWN**
- Ridiculous (6)
 - Poor verse (8)
 - A pledge, guarantee (6)
 - Cut marks in (6)
 - File of papers (7)
 - Conton state; Mobile its port (7)
 - Herman —, *Moby-Dick* author (8)
 - Towards bottom of slope (8)
 - Mistled (8)
 - Fire-starting material (8)
 - Reduce worth (10) (7)
 - Muster; get in order (7)
 - Say no; rubbish (6)
 - Clothing (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 781
ACROSS: 6 Believe you me 7 Divide 8 Turban 9 Belt 10 Decimate 12 Cherubim 16 Kite 18 Profit 20 Regale 21 Black economy
DOWN: 1 Cloister 2 Behead 3 Hectic 4 Dour 5 Impart 6 Beige 11 Make good 13 Herald 14 Butler 15 Cordun 17 Tally 19 Face

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 777
In association with BRITISH MIDLAND
ACROSS: 6 Statute 7 Tulip 9 Cinema 10 Sanctum 11 Business end 14 Iron curtain 17 Dead end 19 Wedge 21 Recur 22 Arraign
DOWN: 1 Gain 2 Jurassic 3 Season 4 Spin 5 Slattern 6 Sick 8 Pomade 11 Buoyancy 12 Star Wars 13 Pundit 15 Red rag 16 Fern 18 Eyre 20 Dais

1st PRIZE of a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic or international network is 1 M A Olsen, Exeter, Surrey.
2nd PRIZE of a return ticket to anywhere on BRITISH MIDLAND's domestic network is A Luscombe, Wilmslow, Cheshire. All flights subject to availability.

Emerson moves to Robson's beat

BY PETER BALL



Emerson: asset

THE BRAZILIAN rhythms will be even stronger at Middlesbrough next season. The FA Carling Premiership club yesterday paid FC Porto £4 million for Emerson, the mid-field player, to link up with Juninho and Branco.

"He's competitive, he wants to win, he's strong, he can tackle, he's a great passer and he can dictate the pace," Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, said. "Bobby (Robson, the Porto manager) is supposed to have said that Emerson reminds him of me."

Emerson, who holds a Portuguese passport, was greeted

by 500 supporters when he arrived on Teesside to sign yesterday. If he lives up to his billing, Emerson will be a formidable asset for Middlesbrough alongside his fellow Brazilians.

"The demands of the English game won't bother him," Robson said. "Some judges say that he's similar to Paul Ince. He's strong and he links well. What is without doubt is that he's another piece of the jigsaw here."

The influence of Bobby Robson and the presence of Juninho played their part in persuading Emerson to move to Middlesbrough. "I have never played with Juninho,"

Emerson said, "but he has shown he is a great player and I am looking forward to doubling up with him."

Emerson is unlikely to be the last Middlesbrough signing of the summer. Robson confirmed yesterday that the club is negotiating with a couple of strikers. One of them is probably Mikkel Beck, Fortuna Köln's Denmark forward, and Robson has been linked with Jürgen Klinsmann and Gianluca Vialli.

At Aberdeen yesterday completed the transfer of Bulgarian's international midfielder, Ilian Kiriakov, for £400,000 from Anorthosis Famagusta in Cyprus.

Griffiths decides to bow out at top

Phil Yates celebrates the career of a player
who holds a unique place in snooker history

TERRY GRIFFITHS, the winner of the Embassy world championship at his first attempt in 1979, and a member of snooker's elite top 16 ever since, yesterday announced his retirement from competition at the age of 48.

Griffiths, from Wales, is a director of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association, the game's governing body, and with his recent appointment as its director of coaching he has found himself increasingly stretched.

However, it is primarily dignity, pride of performance and the realisation that he is a player in decline, which have led Griffiths to leave the competitive arena. "Playing badly and not doing myself justice is not my idea of how I should finish," Griffiths said.

He made the decision during a week of soul-searching after the world championship earlier this month.

It is the first time in the modern era that a former

champion has packed away his cue while still occupying a relatively lofty position in the world rankings. Griffiths stands 23rd on the list for next season and, as a member of the seeded top 32 players on the circuit, was guaranteed total prize-money of £21,215 without putting a ball.

He turned professional at the age of 30 in 1978, after twice winning the English amateur championship, but experienced a demoralising introduction. On his professional debut, he lost 9-8 to Rex Williams in a preliminary round of the United Kingdom championship after being 6-2 ahead.

Five months later, at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, Griffiths beat Perrie Mans, Alex Higgins, Charlieton and Dennis Taylor to become the first and still the only player

to capture the world title in his rookie season.

The ex-apprentice blacksmith, postman, insurance agent and bus conductor went on to win the Benson and Hedges Masters in 1980, the Irish Masters in 1980, 1981



Griffiths: coaching role

and 1982, the year in which he also won the United Kingdom championship. The arrival of Steve Davis on the snooker scene, however, prevented him from developing into a dominant force. Ironically, their second-round meeting in the world championship at the Crucible this year, which Davis won 13-8, could be the last match that Griffiths plays at a venue with which he will always be linked.

Ever the technician, Griffiths, who edged out Jamie Burnett 10-9 on the black in the previous round, analysed both contests on video afterwards and was not impressed, by what he saw. "My standard was poor; it's good that I am finishing," he said, with characteristic realism.

Griffiths has, however, left his options open with regard to participating in the 1997 world championship. He has the summer to decide whether to sever all competitive ties. There are many in snooker who hope that he does not.

HELLO MR WALDEN

£3.80 for a 10 minute
call to the USA?
But it's only £1.18 with us.

Destination	Rate	Rate	%
USA	£1.18	£3.80	69%
India	£2.29	£12.70	43%
Canada	£1.65	£3.80	57%
Australia	£2.23	£5.90	62%
South Africa	£4.70	£8.20	43%
Germany/France	£2.11	£2.96	29%
Nigeria	£7.05	£11.05	35%
Hong Kong	£4.11	£7.30	44%
Pakistan	£9.16	£12.60	27%

(Price comparison based on a 10 minute call)

- * Savings to 100's of countries
- * No Access Charge to our Exchange
- * No start-up costs, membership or joining fees
- * Operators available, 24hrs a day, 7 days a week

FREEPHONE
0800 376 66 66FIRST
TELECOM

BEFORE YOU PHONE THE WORLD, PHONE US.

Globally Speaking - a service provided by First Telecom plc Licensed Carrier.
*First Telecom tariffs shown are weekend rates inclusive of VAT. British Telecom tariffs shown are weekday rates inclusive of VAT. All charges correct as of April 1996.

No. 6553

Good
university
guide
Job prospects
are looking up
PAGES 40-41

MI5 call

By PAMMY A. N. N.
MICHAEL EVANS
ARTIST: P. J. J.

MI5 and its operations in the field of counter-terrorism and espionage are the subject of a new book by Michael Evans. A special feature is a section on the million-pound-plus salaries paid to MI5 officers. The book is available from the Gower Press.

Britons plucked to

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT

IT